Segregation – 1923

Illinois.

VINCENNES HOODLUMS HURL BRICK IN OUTLAW'S WINDOW

Alleged members of the Corpus Christi Catholic church and other white residents of Vincennes Ave. in the vicinity of 49th St. have received an American citizen, not white, L. C. Outlaw, 4819 Vincennes Ave., with two threatening letters and a brick since he moved into a newly purchased home that building at that address last Thursday.

The first note came on the 11th, the brick on the 12th and the second note on the 13th.

The first note read: "Occupant o Apartment No. ... We advise you to vacate as soon as possible. Just such people as you start trouble between whites and your color. You are not living under any Thompson administration now. Thank God for that. So get busy and get out."

Mr. Outlaw declares that he is not even thinking of getting out. One of the letters has been turned over to Captain Hogan of the police department. The priest of the Catholic church refered to was seen and he denied that any of his members had written either of the notes. He visited Mr. Outlaw and expressed his belief that any man had the right to try to improve his condition by moving where he pleased.

MIGRATION TO CHICAGO EXTENDS NEGRO RESIDENCE SECTIONS.

(A. N. P.)

Chicago, Ill., Oct. 19—Where do you live, and why? That question never disturbs thousands of people, unless, perchance, some of them are put to the painful necessity of looking for a place to live with moving day at hand. October first and May first are moving days in Chicago. The guy who in a city of almost 3,000,000 people, only two days of the year have been designated "officially" as "Moving day."

Practically every renter in Chicago has a lease, which expires annually on one of the two dates mentioned. The home owner, of course, is not disturbed as long as he can keep up his payments on property, providing it is not out of debt. So, around about moving day, thede are always hundreds and thousands of Chicagoans who live "nowhere" and scores of housewives, as well as ordinarily good-natured husbands who cannot tell why they are living and often exclaim, "I wish I were dead in the lake." You will never know what inspires that feeling until you are compelled to look for a place to rent in Chicago.

Changing Residential Lines.

Chicago is known all over the world. You'll find few people who don't know about State street, whether they have lived here or not. Twenty-five years ago Colored residents of Chicago lived mostly in the district South of Eighteenth street. West of Wabash av North of Thirty-Ninth street of Wentworth avenue. Today there are yet thousands living within the district, but they are people of very humble means, for the most part, and the houses and flats are woefully run down.

The break came when residents began to get on Wabash avenue about twenty years ago. Whites went farther South and East; Colored moved in. They were splendid looking places, and were the talk of the country. Many of these are still occupied—brick, limestone, and brownstone fronts. But they are distressing evidences of past glory. Colored Chicago has marched on! White Chicago has retreated, not always willingly, but certainly.

East of Michigan and Bombs.

When residents advanced East of Michigan avenue, the places were given over with bitter protests. Bombing was frequent. Within a few doors of where this article is being written. The Associated Negro Press, 3423 Indiana avenue, a Colored home was bombed less than five years ago, several being injured, and a young boy being killed. Today we have Indiana avenue out to Fifty-Fourth street and nothing is said.

The Appomattox Club moved from Wabash avenue to Grand Boulevard, and the beautiful building was bombed twice within a short period. The attack was on the prestige of racial club life, as well as on location. Did the famous club get frightened? Not much. They held ground, and rebuilt instaner. Today Grand Boulevard is dotted out to Forty-Fourth street, and within the next two years these dots will extend to Washington Park and Fifty-First street.

When it was seen that the residents could not be frightened off the Boulevard, they set Thirty-Ninth street as a "dead line." "Pooh, Pooh," the folks laughed, "Dead Line. What's that?" They went on. Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church bought a great building at Forty-Second and Grand Boulevard. When the fact was learned a big increase in price was offered if the church would sell; failing in this, threats were made. The Bethelites quoted, "Upon this rock I build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against." They are there, and all about the big edifice Colored Chicago is assembling.

Whites Give Up Fight.

The whites have actually given up the fight. "O, what's the use; the inevitable is upon us, and by trying to stop the tide, we are cutting off our nose to spite our face." That's what they are saying now. Big white realty firms that two years ago were members of the infamous "Hyde Park and Kenwood Property Owners Association," under a vow "never to rent or sell to a Negro," are today running big advertisements in daily and Colored newspapers, appealing for trade.

Scores of Colored reality firms are flourishing, and others are being opened constantly. There is an unlimited demand for rentals, thirty, forty and fifty for each available place; there is an amazing demand for purchases. Property South is at peak value; in fact, it is inflated like unto a boom town, with little or not let up in sight. Some predict that will be a slump in prices; they did so five years ago when one could purchase for $5,000 what could not be gotten today for $10,000. Prices are regulated by the law of supply and demand. Here, the supply is limited and the demand is fierce.

This fall the purchases have been actually enormous. Where is the money coming from? "God only knows, child God only knows." There are several instances of purchases of six, twelve, eighteen, and twenty-four suite apartment ranging from $25,000 to 100,000 in which the purchase price was paid in cash. Practically all of these buildings are in so-called "white neighborhoods" and have been immediately turned over to Colored renters The fall prices for the best are as follows: three and four rooms, $75; five rooms, $85; six rooms, $95; seven rooms to ten rooms, $100 to $150, and they grab them "like hot cakes."

Onward They Go Southward.

Michigan avenue, the Fifth avenue, of Chicago, has scores of Colored residents out to Forty-Third Street. Rube Foster, the baseball magnet for example has a magnificent six-flat apartment in the Forty-First block on Michigan, with a similar owner next to his building; and the great stream of autos pass along as in the days of yore. The beautiful residential district East of Grand Boulevard and South of Thirty-Ninth Street, where the whites got out a famous circular with the inscription, "They Shall Not Pass," is all going over to Colored residents. It is a most inspiring sight. The spirit of rivalry in keeping the places up," is beautiful to look upon, and there are very few that bear the ear marks of Color, and these few are being instructed in the "ways of life." As American enterprise follows the flag, so Colored business follows the line of residence. The business streets in all the south section is studded with varied lines of trade, conducted in a manner that means progress and success.

Onward to the South and East Marches Colored Chicago, marches on to real estate victory, victory over handicaps of color and victory over the claim of property depreciation. There are at this time deals in progress involving millions of dollars; it is not all in constructed buildings, many of them are for structures yet to come. The Douglass National Bank has just moved into its new home in the Overton $250,000 building; the Binga State Bank is now constructing an exclusive bank building at Thirty-Fifth and State streets; the Knights of Pythias, national body, is to construct a mammoth building next year to cost over a million dollars; the Prince Hall Illinois body of Masons is to put up a $500,000 building and the Great Lakes Lodge, Independent Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will build a $250,000 building here next year, and there are several other big structures now in blue prints. This is the Chicago of today, and "the game is young yet."

Segregation — 1923. Virginia.

Brambleton Is In Eruption Again; Near-White Family Ordered To Move Out

Delegation of Residents Visits Newly Arrived Family At Night and Warns That Color Bars Presence In Neighborhood.

Monday night about 8:30 o'clock a delegation of between 80 and 100 white residents of Brambleton visited the house on the southeast corner of Rowland and Cooke avenues, in which a colored family had moved the previous day and informed the people of the house that they had crossed the "dead line." That is to say, they had moved into a section reserved for white residents only.

To the delegation there seemed to be no doubt that the family was colored, but according to statements made by people who have known them for years, there has always been some question of their racial identity.

It is said that the family considers itself white and all of its members including the mother and a number of children, have no difficulty in "passing," but as to the father, there is always a question that makes the neighbors mumble and shake their puzzled heads. In fact, it is said, that it was the going in and out of the father that aroused the suspicions of the white people, who after peering around for a time, decided that the family was colored and would have to move forthwith.

Crowd Gathers

There was some indignation expressed by the white residents. The crowd that gathered when the delegation appeared at the house included about a half a hundred white children who eagerly awaited developments. There was no intense hostility shown the family, but it was evident that the visitors meant business.

The police after being informed of the situation, took no chances, however, and a Ford car load of them appeared on the scene, a number of the officers camping around the house all night. The family was given time. it is said, to find another location. They agreed to move.

The members of the visiting party were well known men of Brambleton. No masks were worn nor any attempt made on the part of anyone to hide his identity.

Tuesday morning a JOURNAL AND GUIDE reporter called at the house, thinking probably that the family had been victims of an indiscreet real estate dealer.

Reporter Gets Cold Welcome

A lady sitting at the front window saw the reporter step up on the porch. Before he had time to knock, she was at the door demanding in strong tones, "What do you want?" The woman was informed that it was understood that she had suffered some embarrassment the night before from her neighbors. She was told that the colored people of the city were eager to learn of the circumstances involved in order that the blame for her predicament might be rightly placed. Another young woman who had appeared at the door by this time, immediately exclaimed "Why didn't they send a white man to talk to us, we don't talk to niggers." The reporter informed the woman that it was none of his business what kind of a man his paper sent out on an assignment but he'd be glad to get the facts. "No! No! No news for niggers," she said.

Other Folks Talk

However, there were other people who have known the family for years, and who were anxious to tell the reporter its history. And they did tell all they knew or had heard.

On account of family and business connections, which it is claimed the people have made by "passing" the reporter would not divulge their names.

The small children in the family do look like white people and so does the mother, but the woman who hurled those nice words at the

(Continued on Page 5)

reporter will not be so easily mistaken for white, nor will the father.

It is said that they have lived in colored neighborhoods all the time previously.

Question Aired Before

Two years ago there was friction when some white property owners in Brambleton sold to colored people. At that time the matter was ironed out by the city taking over the property, and it was agreed between the colored and white real estate dealers that no property in Brambleton proper would be sold or rented to colored people.

Since then, however, numerous owners under the economic pressure of having their holdings vacant have offered to rent or sell to colored people in the restricted area. But at this time no colored real estate men are handling, nor will they handle any of this property.

About two months ago the matter again bobbed up when enterprising real estate men offered to sell to colored people within the new colored high school district, which embraced some of the restricted section. The matter was settled at this time by the Brambleton white people making further concessions in that the area was extended to include all of that section north of Corprew avenue and west of Park avenue.

Some real estate men rent or sell property to colored people in a white neighborhood with the ultimate purpose of forcing the whites out and turning the district over to colored residents. It is invariably a game of exploitation, with the new buyers "dancing to the fiddle." Whenever the whites begin to vacate a desirable section and colored start in up goes the price, sometimes almost double.

Colored people who find the neighborly association with their own race congenial and have intelligent afortehought, seldom ever attempt to invade the Brambleton section or any other section where they are sure to suffer indignities, even if they remained, so long as they can find desirable homes in more congenial surroundings.

Segregation 1923

Texas.

Negroes Invade Parker; Near Race Riot Occurs

Associated Press Report.

FORT WORTH, Texas, Feb. 12.—Southwestern Parker county, scene of much shooting and a near-race riot Saturday night, was reported quiet today by officers returning from there.

The trouble followed the moving into the community of several families of negro farm workers, despite the fact that the section has always drawn the color line. They were the first negro residents who had ever been seen there.

Threats, then some spasmodic shooting followed. Officers went to the scene and protected the negroes. It is said the latter are expected to leave.

The negroes were brought into the community by a white farmer, who had recently moved there from East Texas.

HIGH-PRICED COLORED ADDITIONS.

Some bit ago The Informer called attention, editorially, to the disparity in prices charged colored people for lots and homes with the prices charged white people, and the article created quite a furore in local realty circles.

We cited in that editorial that, while prices charged colored people are often as high and higher than those charged white people, the physical outlay of the land or physical condition of the house and premises does not even begin to compare favorably with that sold to white buyers. Houston Informer

To be more specific: Whenever a plot of ground is platted and laid off for a white addition, the owners or sales agents will see that all improvements are practically made before even putting the lots on sale; streets are shelled or paved, sidewalks laid, water lines and sanitary sewer connections made and often gas mains extended, so that there is no necessity for tearing up the streets to get these modern conveniences after the permanent improvements have been made on the streets in said white districts.

In other words, the average white district is sold to prospective buyers not on what the owners "plan to do," but on what they have already done in the line of modern and civic improvements.

Our attention has recently been called to a so-called "exclusive and restricted colored residential district," which is located on the far outskirts of the city (really in the "slob-burgs": think you're living in the city when you're not) and the prices for these regular sized city lots are astounding and staggering. 11-10-23

The owners of this small and "exclusive" colored addition are asking from $1400 to $2000 for lots ranging in size from 50x100 feet to 65x115 feet, etc., and they are endeavoring to sell this addition to colored people on "futures;" as none of the advertised modern conveniences can be located with a microscope at this writing, unless it is the sanitary sewer line which the city ran near the addition some time ago. Houston, Tex.

Far be it from The Informer to knock any such undertaking nor impugn or question the motive of these white realty firms who are selling these lots to our people on the installment plan; but their prices should be reasonable, and, since our people have been hoodwinked and fooled so much by slick-tongued salesmen and glittering promises of certain improvements which never materialize in these colored additions, let these realty firms do like Embry and Gillette, owners of Forest Home, and Peoples Home Investment Company, owners of Pine Crest, who added most of these improvements before attempting to sell the lots to our people.

To merely assume the position that there are plenty colored people in Houston who can afford to pay a fabulous price for an unimproved lot halfway between this city and Galveston, is the wrong, unethical and improper attitude for any realty firm or land salesman to take.

It looks like somebody is merely trying to filch and fleece some of our people out of their hard-earned cash, and The Informer opposes their program and hereby warns our people to think several times before contracting to buy and pay for a suburban lot that, at its best, is only worth around $750 to $900.

HIGH PRICES TO COLORED PEOPLE.

The Houston Informer 8-11-23

The attention of The Informer has been repeatedly called to the high prices the white realty firms and realtors charge colored people for both unimproved and improved property in this city.

It is said that comparisons are odious, and if this be true, then the prices that colored people are forced to pay for local real estate, compared with that white people pay, are outrageous.

Hardly any lot is ever sold to a white person unless said lot is placed in excellent shape, with sanitary sewerage connections, city water connections, often gas connections and other necessities of our day and time. Houston Texas.

But most of the lots sold to colored people are located in some swampy place and modern conveniences are conspicuous by their absence; while the price for said property generally exceeds that paid by whites for better location.

To be more explicit: Lots measuring 65x125 feet are now being sold in a restricted and exclusive white residential district for $2650. These lots are all terraced and have gas, water, electric light connections, located on paved streets, with paved sidewalks, excellent drainage and everything to make and maintain ideal home surroundings.

In a certain colored residential section a white realtor, whose property is in a virtual swamp, with an entire absence of modern conveniences, is holding a block of property for around $35,000 to $40,000; which will make an average city lost cost those who purchase property in this tract around $3,000 to $3,500.

Then in the construction of houses for colored people, there is quite a bit of disparity in prices charged colored people and those charged white people.

In most instances, without any of the modern conveniences installed in houses built for whites, colored people are forced to pay more for their houses than the white people, and often inferior material is employed in the houses for the colored people, while the best class of material is used in houses erected for white people.

We know of a colored man who has had several bids submitted to him on a modern home, and, despite the fact that he already

owns the lot, the kind of house he desires has been placed virtually out of his reach.

This race man paid a visit to certain white residential sections, recently, and made a close inspection of several beautiful homes in some of these exclusive and aristocratic additions, and to his surprise and chagrin discovered that houses, containing far more than he planned for his, cost several thousand dollars less than figures submitted to him.

He inspected one home, which he says is one of the most beautiful he has ever been in, two-story brick, oak floors, tiled bath rooms, electric chandeliers, sanitary conveniences, garage and servant house, cement driveway and sidewalk, sleeping porch and all appurtenances that go to make a well-appointed and modern home, which cost in its entirety $16,000.

This same colored man, who did not even want a brick house, nor garage and servant house, has been told by contractors and builders that the cheapest the house he desires can be built for is $21,000.

It must be said to the credit of the colored people of Houston (the home-owning class) that they have done exceptionally well in buying and paying for their homes under such disadvantages and handicaps.

But what the colored people of this city stand in need of is a realty and building association, something on the order of the Service Company of Atlanta, Ga.

Such a race concern could purchase large sites, subdivide and sell them to our people at a fair price; installing all modern conveniences and then when sufficient amount has been paid in on the lots to warrant such, this company could build homes on the installment plan for our people.

We certainly need to wake up along this line, for property (for colored people) is higher in Houston than in any other city in the United States. Brick apartments can be purchased in many Northern cities at considerably less than a lot and frame house in Houston.

The Informer does not make the charge that all white real estate firms and realtors are guilty of overcharging colored people in this respect; but this paper does take the position that property costs our people too much in this city, especially when said property is usually located on Mud Alley and has nothing in its favor except that the Creator made it and therefore it must pass for land.

If local race men can not organize and successfully operate a realty nd building association, then the Houston Colored Commercial Club should get busy and offer inducements to the Service Company of Atlanta, Ga., to open a branch in this city; for we certainly need help from some source and there is plenty of money to be made in this particular line of business.

DENY PERMIT FOR COLORED MOTION PICTURE THEATRE

HOUSTON, Tex.—The city council Tuesday refused to grant a permit for construction of a motion picture theatre for colored people near the edge of the white residential district.

M. Tamborello had made application for a permit to erect a theatre at Gillette and Cook streets. The council, in denying the application, mentioned that the proposed site is within 600 feet of Faith home, an orphanage.

Segregation — 1923.

Tennessee.

Nashville Opposed To Negro Seminary

NASHVILLE, Tenn., July 18. Court action seeking an injunction to prevent the Southern Baptist Convention from purchasing the property of the St. Cecilia Academy for a negro theological seminary was authorized at a mass meeting of protest Tuesday night by citizens of North Nashville. Formal protests of 25,000 citizens will be sent to the Baptist Convention, it was announced after the meeting.

The North Nashville Improvement League, which is backing the fight to prevent the Catholics selling to the negroes, also decided, if necessary, to purchase the property of the institution and convert the buildings into a hospital or subdivide the property into building lots.

7-19-23

A committee, with power to act, was appointed, and will report back at another mass meeting Friday night.

Segregation—1923.

Pennsylvania.

RESIDENTS ATTACK NEW NEGRO NEIGHBOR

Crowd of White Men Bombard House, Forcing Family to Move

PHILADELPHIA PA N. AMER
JANUARY 14, 1923

More than a dozen white men bombarded a house at 2110 Appletree street early yesterday morning with milk bottles and ordered the negro family that had just moved in to move out of the house before another night, threatening that if they did not leave they would be "shot full of holes."

The bombardment of milk bottles continued for more than an hour and nearly every window in the upper floors was broken. The negro woman, who was alone with her two children at the time, took refuge in the rear, after promising, thru partly opened shutters, to move at once.

A detail of police from the Fifteenth and Vine streets station was sent to the street to keep order yesterday morning while the family was moving. There are two other negro families in the block who received much the same kind of a welcome when they first moved in about three year ago.

The Pittsburgh

road between Leechburg and Apollo and has quite a Negro population most of the men miners. It is reported that feeling runs high in the district between white and colored, and that the bombings are the result. Mr. Hicks, owner of the mines, is said to have made the statement that he was "for the colored people," and has already shown his sympathy in a material way by helping the widow of McKnight and their children.

A vague fear seems to hover over the colored district of the neighborhood.

PHILADELPHIA PREACHERS' MEETING GOES ON RECORD AGAINST SEGREGATED SCHOOLS

The Christian Recorder

2-1-23

On last Monday after a vigorous discussion the Philadelphia Preachers' Meeting went on record by unanimous vote against segregated public schools in the State of Pennsylvania. Bishop Coppin presented the resolution. Revs. Beckett, Anderson, Cooper, Monk and others spoke for the resolution and all the ministers stood up to vote for it. We trust, however, that the interest of our brethren will not stop at passing a resolution. The insiduous virus of racial discrimination is creeping in upon us up here in Pennsylvania year by year. The forces against us are thoroughly organized and are working night and day. Many who pose as our friends are for segregation. They hold out good jobs for our sons and daughters and places of influence for our men. We must organize more thoroughly if we are to succeed.

Bishop Coppin headed a delegation which went to Harrisburg to see Governor Pinchot and laid this resolution before him. The resolution is as follows:

WHY WE DO NOT WANT SEPARATE SCHOOLS

The public schools are the property of the people, supported by the taxes of all the people, and open alike to all—rich, poor, white, black, republican, democrats, socialists, foreign-born, and native born.

Others may establish class schools. If Jews do not want to send their children to school with Gentiles, or Catholics do not want theirs to go with Protestants, or rich people do not want their children to associate with poor children, the Jews, the Catholics, or the rich may have their exclusive schools, but not support them out of public taxation. The public schools will make no distinction to satisfy Jew, Gentile, rich or poor.

This we believe to be the principle upon which public schools are established; and we do not ask for any separate schools for ourselves. If we want them, and feel we must have them, let us support them, and not seek to incorporate them in the public school system.

And we believe any attempt to thrust them upon us is distasteful, undemocratic, and un-American class legislation, such as encourages caste, and is in opposition to the best ideals of our American Republic.

We do not object to private persons who are particularly interested in the education of Negroes, such as the promoters of Lincoln University at Oxford, Pennsylvania, or Berean School at Philadelphia, so long as they pay their own bills and do not raid the public treasury or try to force all Negroes to their schools regardless of public schools, but we do object to them as public segregated institutions.

Separate public schools are an injustice to our people—an inconvenience which they should not suffer. They deprive them of going to the school nearest them, thus adding to their lateness and absence record. Separate schools set the colored children apart from others and brand them as inferior.

Because they are fewer in number, colored children will not get the advantage other children get in their school equipment, the variety of courses, opportunities for scholarship, etc.

We believe association in schools is one of the things necessary to a better racial understanding for the solution of grave problems ahead of us. Specifically we oppose the designation of the school at Cheyney as the Normal Training School for Negroes. We do not oppose Cheyney, but we do solemnly protest against its raid on the public treasury and the attempt to make it the state school for Negroes. Already Negro students find it too difficult to secure admission into the state public schools, which are supported by the taxes of the people.

There is no state normal school for Jews, or for Catholics, or for persons of German or Irish descent, why should there be for persons of Negro descent? We all have the same life, are subject to the same general laws, pay the same taxes, are expected to be loyal to the same flag (and none doubt the Negro's loyalty either in time of war, or time of peace); then why should the Negroes be set apart as a thing inferior, a caste beneath? Do we not have hardships enough to overcome, rather than have to face new ones in public school system, the last place we should expect to find caste discrimination?

We earnestly and sincerely oppose any move toward any legal or official recognition of the principle of segregation in the public schools in this great commonwealth, and trust that the new Governor, whose high stand for better government in all functions of the state has already challenged our admiration, will not permit the stigma of caste education to attach itself to his administration and be the one black spot that will mar his gubernatorial career.

EXPLODING BOMBS KILL NEGRO NEAR LEECHBURG, PENNA., AND WRECK HOMES

(Pittsburgh American Staff Correspondent)

LEECHBURG, Pa., April 20.—Evidences of a widespread effort here to expel Negroes from this district were seen last week in the bombing of two Negro residences, one in Kiskimere near here, the other in Vandergrift.

The Pittsburgh

According to report, James McKnight the first victim returned home from work at about ten o'clock last Thursday evening and almost immediately retired. About an hour later, a terrific explosion occurred in the front of the house, tearing away the entire front wall and fatally injuring McKnight.

The victim was lying at the foot of the bed at the head of which lay his wife and youngest child. By some strange trick of fate, Mrs. McKnight escaped without a scratch, while the child, though seriously injured in both legs, will recover.

Upon later investigation by the police, it was discovered that a bomb had been placed on the front porch of McKnight's house, probably only a short time after he entered. So far two arrests on suspicion have been made, but no definite knowledge of those responsible for the tragedy exists.

McKnight was father of a family of six, a miner in the local coal mines, and a well known resident of the town. His age was about forty-eight years. The funeral was held last Saturday at the home.

Suspicion of a widespread attempt to frighten Negroes from this section, was given added credence by the occurence of a similar bombing in Vandergrift. Here the house of Arthur Young had the whole front torn out in like manner, although with no tragic results as in the other case.

Kiskimere is a small town on the

Says Mixing Would Result In Loss Of Moral Principles

Pittsburgh Sunday

9-29-23

Not Aligned With Klan, Which He Said Exemplified Race Prejudice at Its "Ugliest and Worst."

Pittsburgh, Pa.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Sept. 27.—Rev. John Howard Lever, formerly of Detroit and now rector of the Church of the Advocate, Eighteenth and Diamond streets, startled his congregation last Sunday by delivering a sermon aimed to arouse city council to establish race segregation throughuot the city. The sermon explained all his reasons and especially stipulated that this did not apply to the Negroes only, but to Jews and every other race present in considerable numbers.

The sermon began with an explanation that the rector's views could not be confounded with those of the Ku Klux Klan, which he said, exemplified race prejudice at its "ugliest and worst."

"There are ignorant and narrow-minded people, who think those different from themselves are morally wrong and that it is necessary to thrash them out with physical violence," he said. "Of such is the Ku Klux Klan composed. But I have nothing to do with race prejudice. I am an exponent of race consciousness, just as was Christ when He said, 'Go into the way of the Gentiles and into any city of the Samaritans enter yet not. But go rather to the lost sheep of Israel.'" It was this text upon which he based his sermon.

He then directed his remarks to the Jews. He said he saw in them many admirable qualities, strength, virility, alertness and intelligence, which he later added are considerably overrated.

Against these he contrasted what he termed their "arrogance, boasting, self-assertion, noise and intense narrowness." He said the Jew is not to be pitied, but rather "the Gentile who has to do business with him."

Then he considered the Negroes; said they are insisting more and more upon living with the white, and added that that would be unfair to both races. He maintained any mixing would result in the loss of the culture it has taken man so long to acquire.

"I am extremely tired of hearing that segregation and zoning are un-American," he said. "If the principles of American democracy compelled mixing there would be dangerous friction constantly engendered. As long as I allow others as good parts of the city as I want myself, there is no reason why my race and kind cannot live by themselves.

"I hope City Council will stop dilly-dallying and face their problem honestly and fearlessly, being moved neither by great financial interests nor threats of demagogues, but because the welfare of the city depends upon it. We need a zoning law. Not one which applies to business building and factories, but one applying to permissable types of dwellings and races of people to live in them. Each race of any considerable number should have its own section to live its own life, yet with plenty of contact with the other races.

"There are now in this city constant dangers of race trouble and all the elements of race riots, which, in their ultimate effect, degenerate the city."

[illegible]

OC[illegible]

[illegible] and the Race Question.

[illegible]he Record:

[illegible] ago a clergyman proposed a zon[illegible] [illegible]stem for Philadelphia by which the d[illegible]ent races of people would be separa[illegible]. In reply one of your correspondents confidently remarks. "There will be no zoning in Heaven." This is not self-evident; moreover, quite the reverse would seem to be true, if the same natural laws govern the spirit world which control our destinies here. Hence, there is a philosophy that teaches that the next world consists of a series of zones, graduating all the way from the nether region to the highest heaven. Was it not said, "In My Father's house are many mansions?" While it is permissible to philosophize regarding those things, we should be careful not to dogmatize.

But, however it may be in Heaven, surely God, or nature, has zoned this world quite thoroughly, giving Africa to one race, Asia to another, and so on. And if each race had kept to its own zone there would be no such race problems as we have confronting us now. And in solving these problems we should remember that the white man has been foremost in invading the zones of other people. But if the zoning system proposed for Philadelphia (which would be followed by other cities if successful), merely did in a small way what nature has done on a much larger scale, it would seem that all would be satisfied. For every white man thinks that the white race is the best, and every colored man thinks (or ought to think) that the colored race is the best: and both are right. The writer has some friends among the colored people and hopes every deserving colored person has friends among the whites.

W. S. CLINGAN.

Colora, Md., Sept. 30, 1923.

PHILADELPHIA PA N AMER

[illegible] 1923

THREAT TO PLANT A NEGRO COLONY DEFIED

Merchantville Votes to Take William Davenport's Land

HAD OLD OPTION

Despite threats made by William Davenport that he would dispose of his numerous realty holdings in Merchantville to negroes if residents of the Camden suburb voted to buy a plot of ground owned by him against his wish, residents of the town last night, by a vote of 133 to 53, approved a bond issue to purchase the land for a playground. Davenport, who attended the meeting, refused to comment on the result.

Under a will left by Davenport's father, the town of Merchantville was given the option of purchasing the site for $5300. Recently it developed that John Whitaker had offered Davenport $6900 for the land. On two former occasions the residents of the town turned down the offer to buy. When Whitaker, however, posted circulars to telegraph poles setting forth Davenport's threat, a special meeting was called and the issue was voted thru.

The fight between Davenport and Whitaker on one side and townsfolk roused by the threats on the other, started when Whitaker was arrested last week and fined $35 after he had posted the threatening circulars contrary to a borough ordinance.

Segregation — 1923.

Ohio.

Segregation of Negro in North Urged by Cincinnati Jurist

Cincinnati, Ohio, May 26.—The influx of many thousands of negroes from the central southern states which is reaching what is considered by the police authorities to be of dangerous proportions, was commented on here late today by Judge Charles W. Hoffman, during the hearing of the case of Curtis Cross, negro, who was indicted today by the Hamilton county grand jury and transferred to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court. Curtis had testified in Judge Dixon's court of common pleas here that he was 16 years of age.

"This negro," said Judge Hoffman, "has stated that he is 16 years of age, and, although he has the appearance of a man of 25, it is impossible to prove otherwise, so the juvenile court must bear the responsibility and expense which rightfully belongs in this instance to the state of Alabama, his home. Cross was before me two months ago on the charge of burglary and receiving stolen goods, offenses similar to those charged against him now. At that time, seeking to put the responsibility where it rightfully belonged, I sent him back to his home in Birmingham, Ala. Now he is back in this state. In my opinion, he is an menace to the citizens of Hamilton county and he, with all the more than 60,000 negroes, should be segregated.

"The case of Cross," continued Judge Hoffman, "is further proof that the many thousands of negroes now in this city from Georgia, Tennessee and Alabama have demonstrated the absolute and immediate necessity of the 'segregation' of that race, not only in this city, but in all northern cities and the constant 'listing' and police surveillance of that race in order to protect the northern whites from their contaminating influence.

"Induced by crooked labor agents to flock to the north in search of high wages, the recent repeated mobbing of police officers while engaged in the enforcement of laws against immorality and gambling by negroes is enough proof for the immediate action by police heads to effect segregation."

Segregation — 1923

North Carolina.

SEEK TO TAKE HOMES FROM NEW BERN NEGROES

Whites Of Devastated City Attempt To Deprive Distressed Negroes Of Property By Condemnation Proceedings Negroes Fight To Hold Their Homes

Colore dresidents of the city of New Berne, N. C., whose homes were burned in the recent disastrous fire, are fighting an attempt by white citizens to prevent their re-building their homes through condemnation proceedings which would turn the colored section into a cemetary and park, according to announcement today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Reports from New Berne state that the colored residents have not been permitteld to re-build their homes. A statement sent to the advancement association by a competent investigator asserts:

"The city of New Berne is determined the burnt area shall not be rebuilt by or for Negroes. It is proposed to condemn the land, ostensibl for cemetery and park purposes, but this is openly winked at as a subterfuge to get rid of the Negro property owner. In the meanwhile no building is permitted in the burned district and no provision is being made for a suitable locaton elsewhere. You can see the hardship this works on the lot owners; in many cases all they have is tied up in this real estate, which will be a long time in litigation in the condemnation proceedings."

It s asserted that the city of New Berne lacks the necessary funds for condemnation proceedings thus proving the measure to be a subterfuge to prevent the colored residents rebuilding their homes. Appeals to the white community having failed the colored citizens have employed lawyers and are attempting by injunction to prevent the condemnation and seizure of their land.

The report further states that the Negro districts that were not in the fire area are negleced and have no improvements whatever in the way of paving, lighting, sewerage, water supply and street car service. These districts, it is asserted, into which the Negro sufferers from the fire are to be forced to move, have surface toilets and the pumps for drinking water are in close proximity, the water coming within a few feet of the surface.

The report censures the attitude of the white citizens of New Berne in the following terms:

"The white people of New Berne in this crisis do not seem to feel any sense of duty in providing for the housing of their Negro citizens and are blind to their economic value. New Berne has no white labor and herein is the only way out that lies in the Negro himself quietly organize and leave New Berne. This has been hinted but the white people do not take it seriously. The only other way is for New Berne to be brought to a realization of the injury it will do itself in the eyes of the country if it carries on its present policy."

In the course of the fight by colored residents to retain their property and home sites, resolutions were passed and published in a local newspaper on the aniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, protesting against the injustice being done New Berne colored citizens, and stating:

"The proposed condemnation for park and cemetaries will work a grevious hardship and injustice upon th ecolored people, making it impossible for many of them ever to build again in improved and sanitary localities accessible to the conveniences enjoyed by the average white taxpaver."

NEWBERN MAYOR EXPLAINS WHY PROPERTY OF COLORED PEOPLE WAS CONDEMNED

City Government, He Says, Will Not Commit Any Wrong Against Any of Its Citizens

2-9—23

If any property of colored people is condemned for public purpose, no wrong will be committed against any citizen, Mayor Edward Clark told the Afro-American today.

Fire destroyed one-fourth of the city recently, and colored people suffered huge losses. It was rumored that the colored people will not be allowed to rebuild homes, and that much of the land they owned would be condemned for a public park.

Plans shown by the mayor indicate that the alleys will be widened to 60-foot streets, new avenues cut thru in some instances, but no other changes. The mayor's statement follows:

With reference to the proposed condemnation of certain property, in this city, there seems to be more or less propaganda circulated in order to bring about dissatisfaction among the colored people of this community. There is no purpose or desire on the part of the city government or its citizens to commit any wrong against our colored or white citizens.

The proposed area under condemnation is about equally divided between the white and colored property owners, and if the pending compromise proposition is carried into effect the white owners of property which will come under the condemnation, will considerably exceed that of the colored property owners, and this compromise as I understand it will entirely satisfy the colored citizens.

We do not wish to jeopardize the interest of either race in this matter, but what is done will be mutually beneficial to both races. We have already undertaken the improvement of the colored section outside of the burned area which will greatly improve an enhance their holdings.

Ill-fated Victims of Newbern Fire Refused Permission to Rebuild On Their Own Land

Instead of City and County Officials Assisting Victims, they Plan to Force them to Move to Undeveloped Part of Town

Colored residents of the city of New Bern, N. C., whose homes were burned in the recent disastrous fire, are fighting an attempt by white citizens to prevent their rebuilding their homes through condemnation proceedings which would turn the colored section into a cemetary and park, according to announcement today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Reports from New Bern state that the colored residents have not been permitted to rebuild their homes. A statement sent to the Advancement Association by a competent investigator asserts:

"The city of New Bern is determined the burnt area shall not be rebuilt by or for Negroes. It is proposed to condemn the land, ostensibly for cemetery and park purposes, but this is openly winked at as a subterfuge to get rid of the

Negro property owner. In the meanwhile no building is permitted in the burned district and no provision is being made for a suitable location elsewhere. You can see the hardship this works on the lot owners, in many cases all they have is tied up in this real estate, which will be a long time in litigation in the condemnation proceedings."

It is asserted that the city of New Bern lacks the necessary funds for condemnation proceedings thus proving the measure to be a subterfuge to prevent the colored residents rebuilding their homes. Appeals to the white community having failed the colored citizens have employed lawyers and are attempting by injunction to prevent the condemnation and seizure of their land.

In the course of the fight by colored residents to retain their property and home sites, resolutions were passed and published in a local newspaper on the anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, protesting against the injustice being done New Bern colored citizens and stating:

"The proposed condemnation for park and cemeteries will work a grievous hardship and injustice upon the colored people, making it impossible for many of them ever to build again in improved and sanitary localities accessible to the conveniences enjoyed by the average white taxpayer."

New Bern City Government Moves To Take Race Property

New Bern, N. C.—A definite move was made by the city government last week toward the condemnation of George street property owned by colored people who lost their homes in the fire here December 1. This move was the authorization of the borrowing of an amount not to exceed $250,000 to settle for the land to be condemned.

A few weeks after the fire it was announced that the city would condemn an area covering almost 40 blocks and owned by colored fire victims for municipal purposes. Strong opposition to such a drastic proposal was voiced by the owners and other citizens who felt that the action was unfair to the colored citizens and not absolutely necessary to the city's development.

Later the Board of Aldermen amended its original plans, and decided to condemn an area not over one-third as large as was first proposed. This area comprises property on both sides of George street, one of the finest residential thoroughfares in the city.

Permits for rebuilding were issued to owners of property throughout the fire swept district except the section which the city has contemplated acquiring. In this section the owners were neither given permits to rebuild nor were they informed just when the city intended to institute condemnation proceedings.

Much Delay Experienced

The seemingly reluctance on the part of the city to go ahead with proceedings to acquire the property, caused, it is said, by the lack of funds to purchase it, and the refusal in the meantime to issue building permits to the owners have caused a hardship upon a large element of the colored population in that they could neither rebuild on their land nor receive an offer from the city for it to be refused or rejected.

The move made by the Board of Aldermen last week, it is believed, will crystalize action one way or the other in the confused situation.

However, it is learned that the majority of the owners of George street property do not intend to acquiese in city's proposal to take their land. That there will be a hard fought legal battle is almost a certainty. The colored citizens have, for good reasons, remained silent and watched with intense interest every move made by the city government to divest them of their valuable land. This silence has not been inaction, however. They are intensely alive to the situation and an array of brilliant legal talent has been consulted and retained to fight the matter to a finish and it is believed that when the city attempts to force the entering of claims by the owners a fight will be instituted that will run the gamut of North Carolina courts.

Outside Aid Promised

Outside aid has been promised to New Bern property owners to carry the litigation to the limit. The business men of the city are relying upon New Bern citizens at first, but if outside funds should become necessary they will be forthcoming.

No question has ever been so seriously discussed by the colored people of the town. They intend to make a great sacrifice in this matter. Every business and professional colored man has seized the responsibility and what happens in New Bern will be of national importance to the entire Afro-American group.

The city proposes to borrow the money in installments of $50,000 each. Just how long it will be before all of the funds said to be necessary to purchase the property will be available cannot be conjectured. In this event it is seen that it would be some time before the owners could be settled with, which would of course, prolong the hardship entailed upon them.

Segregation – 1923.

North Carolina

It will be calamity upon calamity if the Negro victims of the recent disastrous fire at New Bern not only lose their houses and household goods but have their land confiscated by the City Fathers, because it is desirable property, on pretense of devoting the land to parke and other purposes.

UNFORTUNATE NEW BERN FIRE VICTIMS

The worst fears of the victims of the recent terrible fire at New Bern appear to be in store for them. It is not enough that fire has destroyed their homes and valuables, the accumulations of a life time of industry and thrift; the city board of aldermen has adopted resolutions which condemn the land of the victims for municipal purposes. If they are not willing to accept the appraisement the city puts on the value of the land the city will confiscate it and pay the price it suits them to pay. The right of the aldermen to condemn this property is perfectly sound in law but there is nothing whatever sound about it in equity or morals. Indeed, it looks like rubbing it into the poor victims because the city fathers have the law and white public opinion on their side. It is a question of might, not right. Those who use power in this way do not reckon with the law of even which makes them pay for the injustice, but the law of even reckons with them. There need be no misunderstanding about that. It is written in The Book.

The unfortunate victims of the New Bern fire did as much by their labor and thrift and devotion to the best interests of the city to make it great and prosperous as their white fellow-citizens. That is a law of political economy which equalizes the contributions of the poorest and richest and the most learned and most unlearned in a given community to the common store of land, houses and hereditaments. And these possessions are regarded in our law and equity as being sacred as life itself. Life and property rights are in the same class and cannot be invaded, invalidated or sacrificed except to meet a great and pressing public necessity, which nowhere appears in the conditions produced by the New Bern fire.

Those who have been deprived of their land will have to go out of the protected city districts and build up another community of their own, without proper police or fire protection, without proper water and sewerage and lighting. They will have to begin all over again, with the hope held out that when they have made their property valuable and desirable the city board of aldermen may come along and condemn it for public uses. That kind of hope withers industry and thrift at their very roots.

May God influence the minds of the white people to do simple justice to their black fellow-citizens in the matter of life and property rights so that the wrath which always camps on the heels of injustice may be tempered in its fury.

NEWBERN, N. C. FAMILIES FIGHT LOSS OF HOMES AND PROPERTY.

Dallas Express 2-17-23

New Bern, N. C., Feb. 1.—Colored residents of the city of New Bern, N. C. whose homes were burned in the great disastrous fire, are fighting an attempt by white citizens to prevent their rebuilding their homes through condemnation proceedings which would turn the colored section into a cemetary and park. 2-3-23

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NEW BERN ALDERMEN CHANGE THEIR PLANS

Norfolk Journal and Guide

Propose Now to Take Only Half of Negro Property in Burned Area for Public Park.

2-10-23

New Bern, N. C., Feb. 7,—A big cut in the section of the fire area that was to have been acquired by the city for use as a public park is called for in resolutions passed by the board of aldermen today. The park area is reduced approximately 50 per cent, and allows Negro owners to retain their property on this portion.

Segregation — 1923

New York.

LACKS WAY TO AVERT INVASION OF NEGROES

BALTIMORE MD EVE SUN
FEBRUARY 23, 1923

City Powerless To Aid Harlem Avenue Whites, Declares Mayor Broening.

HE CITES COURT DECISIONS

Unable To Say What Disposition He Will Make Of Petition From 1000 Block.

"The city has no power to prevent the invasion of a white block by negroes seeking residence," Mayor Broening said today, in reference to a petition reported to be on its way to him asking aid in keeping negro families from moving into houses on Harlem avenue between Fremont and Arlington avenues.

"That question was settled adversely long ago when higher courts declared invalid so-called 'segregation laws.' There is nothing the city can do in this matter."

The Mayor added that he had not received the petition and could not say what disposition he would make of it.

Threaten Court Fight.

Property owners in the neighborhood declared they have learned that two houses in the block are to be sold to negroes and have said that if necessary they would carry to court the fight to prevent the invasion.

The block consists of three-story brick houses, most of them with marble steps. Most of the houses in the neighborhood are owned by the occupants and the newest of them were built about 36 years ago.

There are said to be two negro families on Harlem avenue near Carey street, but no others throughout the length of the thoroughfare. Negroes began to buy property in the surrounding neighborhood early last year following the rumor that the Harlem Avenue Christian Church was to be sold to a colored congregation.

White Owners Getting Out.

After the transfer took place, residents declare, property values depreciated and a number of white owners sold their homes.

It was recalled at the City Hall today that residents of other blocks threatened with negro invasions entered into covenants which made it illegal for a house in these blocks to be deeded to negroes.

CALLED POLICE WHEN COLORED FAMILY HAD HOUSEWARMING PARTY

White Neighbors Took Mean Action Against Man who Bought Leffert's Place Home.

TO BUY HIM OUT

Hemerdinger ded Home For Family, So He Refused to Sell Property.

When it became known that John Hemerdinger, a colored man had bought the handsome home at 121 Lefferts place in the midst of a desirable residential section, all the other householders, belonging, however, to some group of the Caucasian race, there was aroused a stir of dissatisfaction among these residents.

Mr. Hemerdinger bought the property the first of the present year, and some of his prospective neighbors immediately made an effort to buy him out. He has several other properties, but they are all under lease, and he was in need of a home for his own family, so the offers made him for the Lefferts place residence were promptly turned down.

This further incensed his prospective neighbors, and when he had finally moved into the house, and then proceeded to celebrate his incumbency by inviting a number of his friends to join with him in a housewarming party, the indignant and wrothful neighbors attempted a mean and despicable revenge.

They telephoned to the police station that a disorderly party, accompanied with much drinking of prohibition times "hooch," with a lot of free-for-all fighting, was in process at 121 Lefferts place. And so it was that in a few minutes patrol wagons, filled with cops, and details of reserves hustling along on foot, made the Hemerdinger home the center of their activities.

Of course, there was no disorder, no drinking and no fights. But there was considerable embarrassment for Mr. Hemerdinger and his guests, and the white neighbors were probably gratified that this was so.

In renovating the house for his own occupancy, Mr. Hemerdinger decided to name the home in honor of his wife, and so had "Aleathian" inscribed on the front door. And this the white neighbors pretended to claim was an index to the opening of a club. One of the white neighbors, Mrs. Max Williams of 116, denied that Hemerdinger's refusal to sell the property to her was the cause of her complaints.

Mr. Hemerdinger, in speaking of the incident, says that his friends and guests were quiet and orderly, there was nothing strong to drink, and the music was furnished by a jazz orchestra, such as is employed nightly in hundreds of homes in Greater New York. The party ended about 4 a. m., and the guests proceeded quietly enough to their various homes, some in their own cars, some in taxis, and some in the B. R. T. cars.

"Jealousy," said Mr. Hemerdinger, "which led also to the false allegation that I was intending to open a boarding house, formed the sole basis for the action taken by my white neighbors."

AGREEMENTS NOT TO SELL HOUSES TO ANY RACE ARE ILLEGAL

Court Decisions Against Covenants Restricting Sale or Rent of Property To One Race

14th AMENDMENT CITED

Guarantees To Every Citizen Equal Protection Without Regard to Color

If the Harlem Park Citizens' Association or any other Association restrains colored people from the rental or purchase of property on the ground of color or race, the same is a violation of the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution.

This in a word is the report of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People who have consulted eminent legal authorities concerning the covenants inserted in the deeds to property in certain sections of the city by white owners, to prevent said property ever from being rented or sold to Negroes.

Says the Association's report forwarded the AFRO-AMERICAN, "I invite your attention to the decision of the United States Circuit Court for the Southern District of California to the effect that a covenant not to rent property to a Chinaman is void as against public policy, and as violation of the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution, providing for equal protection of the laws, as well as an infraction of the treaty with China."

It is pointed out that it is a violation to restrict the rental of property, it is equally a violation to restrict the sale of property whether the renter or purchaser be yellow or black.

The same principle of the law, it is pointed out, which induces the courts to declare segregation laws invalid, will upon proper presentation, induce courts to reach the conclusion that such restrictions in private agreements relating to the use of property, are likewise invalid.

OUT WHITES FOR BLACKS

The Guardian

New York, Oct. 16, 1923—New York's "Black Belt" in Harlem is rapidly expanding southward and landlords are supplanting white tenants with Colored at doubled rents, protesting New Yorkers testified before the State Commission on Housing and Regional Planning, in support of statements that 705,612 persons were without adequate places of abode.

"How can the Colored pay twice as much as the whites?" asked a member of the commission. The answer came from Joseph D. Flynn, representative of the Wesct Harlem Tenants' Association, who said the Colored herd in roomers, as many as fifteen in an apartment, who sleep in double or triple shifts, paying the apartment landlord enough so he can afford to pay the house landlord the exorbitant rentals demanded.

A similar situation exists in the Lower East Side tenment district with the newcomer alien playing the same relation to the landlord as the Colored does in Harlem, Rev. Joseph Silipigni testified.

NEGROES FLEECED IN HARLEM "BLACK BELT"

Forced to Pay Twice Usual Sum for Rentals.

NEW YORK, Oct. 16.—New York's "black belt" in Harlem is rapidly expanding southward and landlords are supplanting white tenants with negroes at doubled rents, protesting New Yorkers testified before the state commission on housing and regional planning in support of statements that 705,612 persons were without adequate places of abode.

"How can the negroes pay twice as much as the whites?" asked a member of the commission. Joseph D. Flynn, representative of the West Harlem Tenants' Association, answered that landlords of "white apartments coerce their tenants to move by failing to keep up repairs, raising rents to the limit permitted by the emergency laws, by offering $100 bonuses to tenants if they move, and, as a last resort, by installing negro house agents. Tenants then get panicky, thinking negroes are about to become their neighbors and get out, Flynn said.

Soon the apartments are filled with negroes, paying twice the previous rental, Flynn continued. They herd in roomers, as many as 15 to an apartment, he said, who sleep on double or triple shifts, paying the apartment landlord enough so he can afford to pay the house landlord the exorbitant rentals demanded.

BROOKLYN DAILY TIMES
MAY 5, 1923

NEGRO COLONY NOT WELCOME

The Colored People Purchased Building at Kingston Ave. and Fulton Street.

WHITE FOLKS MOVE OUT

First Step to Improve Housing Conditions for Negroes Here.

The recent purchase by a group of prominent and wealthy Brooklyn negroes of the three-story brick building on the southwest corner of Fulton street and Kingston avenue, which they intend to remodel and rent out to members of their own race in an effort to better the living conditions of the majority of the 80,000 negroes of this borough, has raised considerable opposition among the white people residing in the vicinity.

It is the intention of the Carol Finance Corporation to establish a savings bank in the store, that will loan money to colored folks at a nominal interest rate, encourage the erection and purchase of private houses.

Notices will be served upon the present occupants of the tenement house, but no trouble is expected from this source as all have agreed to leave at the end of the month. However many storekeepers of the neighborhood showed an unconcealed dislike for the new tenants and have even gone so far as to state that the value of the nearby property will fall when the negro migration to this part of the borough begins.

The house was purchased for $32,750, the money being raised by stock, sold at $100 for four shares of preferred and one share of common stock, and the corporation was capitalized for $50,000. The head-

quarters of the committee is temporarily in the Mechanics Bank Building.

The corporation has asked the cooperation of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce and will also enlist the aid of leading bankers and business men in launching the project to success. The officers of the corporation are William A. Cogill, president; Edward Watkins, treasurer; Samuel J. Clement, secretary; J. Oliver Welch, vice-president. The directors include, beside the officers, C. E. Barrow, R. Howell, George Yearwood, Mrs. M. Watkins and Mrs. G. Yearwood.

BROOKLYN STANDARD UNION
JUNE 3, 1923

NEGROES WOULD BUY BLOCK IN THE SELECT ST. MARKS SECTION

Colonization Attempt Alarms Residents on Pacific Street, Near New York Avenue.

SITE FOR BANK SAID TO HAVE BEEN ACQUIRED

Purpose to Gain Foothold in Locality Openly Avowed.

Property owners on Pacific and Dean streets, between Albany and Brooklyn avenues, within the exclusive St. Marks section, are greatly alarmed over a report of an invasion of negroes into this previously high-ly-restricted neighborhood.

The latest rumor that has helped to give credence to the reports in circulation is to the effect that a building at Fulton street and Kingston avenue has been purchased by negroes who intend to open a bank on the site. This location is three short blocks from Pacific street.

Canvass From House to House.

Some time ago the neighborhood was stirred by a report that 5,000 negroes from the South intended to locate on Atlantic avenue. The influx, however, did not occur then, and while some negro families established themselves on the thoroughfare the number was not large enough to cause pronounced alarm.

During the past week a negro speculator, who seemed to be persistent in the effort to get the property at any cost, has been making a house-to-house canvass on Pacific street. He approached a certain prominent citizen and asked him how much he wanted for his house.

The suddenness of the proposal made the property owner hesitate, but the importunate prospector seemed to be determined on getting a quick answer. The house owner finally said he would have to consult his wife. Thereupon the negro speculator exclaimed:

"Well, we are determined on getting in on this block. If you are afraid to sell because of the effect on the neighbors I wish to inform you someone else will dispose of his property. Then you will have to take a lower price."

Property Owners Panicky.

A few days after this incident the property owner who had been approached saw the speculator on the adjoining block on Pacific street making inquiries regarding an apartment house. Reports of the incidents have spread around the neighborhood and have made some of the property owners panicky.

Negro families now wholly occupy an apartment house on Kingston avenue, between Pacific and Dean streets. They have been there for some time and rumors have spread from time to time to the effect that other apartments in the row were to be taken over by negroes.

Financial Centre Rumor.

The rumor as to a negro-controlled bank to be located at Fulton street and Kingston avenue gained credence within the past few days. The store on the ground floor of the property said to have been acquired is now used as a paint shop. The rumor had it that promoters of a bank project were anticipating an increase in the number of negro families in the neighborhood.

ADVANCEMEN ASSOCIATION ACTS ON WHOLESALE DEPORTATIO.. OF JOHNSTOWN, PENN. NEGROES

Wires Governor Pinchot and Mayor—Rushes Special Investigator To The Scene.

The Mobile Forum

Annouucement was made today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City, of prompt action that had been taken to protect the lives, property and civil rights of colored residents of Johnstown, Penn. who are being driven from the city following an order issued a week ago by Mayor Joseph Cauffiel because of the killing of two policemen, the crimes alleged to have committed by Negroes. The Advancement Association has rushed a special investigator t oJohnstown and has wired Governor Gifford M. Pinchot and Mayor Cauffiel characterizing the action taken by the latter as gross exceeding of authority ve... in him, pointing out that the only duty incumbent upo... as the apprehension and punishment of the guilty an... he had no authority to drive from the city all Negroes ...nt or guilty, "whose only offense is that their skins a... ." The Association's telegram demanded of the Mayor ... he cease the hounding of Negroes and making himself a ...he Ku Klux Klan.

Mobile, Ala.

The telegrm to Governor Pinchot read:

"Today's New York newspapers report that beca... the killing of two policemen and the wounding of four otl... 'm- es alleged to have been committed by Negroes of Jo... 'n, Pa. more than two thousand Negroes have left Johns ...e cause of order issued by Mayor Joseph Cauffiel that only Negroes resident in city for seven years would be allowed to remain. National Association for the Advancement of Colored People with four hundred and fifty branches and membership of one hundred thousand composed of members of both races herewith registers its protest against this high handed injustice through such wholesale deportation by the mayor of Johnstown of men regardless of innocence or guilt solely because their skins are black. It is so obvious as to make it a superfluous statement that the only action which should have been taken by the mayor and other authorities of Johnstown would have been to seek out and punish those guilty. This Ass'n restatement that the only action which should have been taken office to correct this grievious injustice if the facts stated above are found to be true and to protect the colored citizens of Johnstown against the Ku Klux Klan's methods of Mayor Cauffiel.

9-27-23

James Weldon Johnson,
Secretary, N. A. A. C. P."

Mayor Cauffiel was wired:

"Press dispatches in today's newspapers report that more than two thousand Negroes have left Johnstown as a result of your order that only Negroes resident in the city for seven years would be allowed to remain because of shooting of two policemen and wounding of four others these crimes alleged to have been committed by Negroes. If the facts as reported above are correct National Association for the Advancement of Colored People with four hundred and fifty branches and membership of one hundred thousand composed of members of both races vigorously protest against this highhanded injustice in such wholesome deportation. I tIappears to us that you have totally exceeded authority vested in you. It is the duty of the mayor and the other authorities of Johnstown to seek out and punish the guilty instead of punishing men whose only offense is that their skins are black. We respectfully urge that the hounding of colored citizens be stopped and that the city o Johnstown cease making itself a tool for carrying out the threats of the Ku Klux Klan.

James Weldon Johnson,
Secretary. N. A. A. C. P."

Segregation — 1923. New York.

Offered Apartments to Colored People in House Below 125th Street; Won't Be Bluffed, He Says

Because the Rex Realty Co., 345 Lenox avenue, a white firm, offered an apartment to rent to colored people, it has received threats signed by the Ku Klux Klan.

The following is a copy of the letter received by the firm:

Realm 7, Chapter 3.

Dear Sir:

We have been informed of your intention to rent your house at 46 West 117th Street to Negro tenants. This is wholly un-American and is totally against our principles.

We ask you in a gentlemanly way to rescind your order, as unpleasant things may happen.

May your decision be the right one.

K. K. K.

The communication is typewritten and on a small slip of paper.

The head of the firm, when interviewed by a reporter from The Amsterdam News, said that he did not intend to be bluffed by the Klan or anyone else. "We're going right ahead, renting the house to colored people," he said.

"We are not owners of the property," he continued. "The owner, having had several disagreeable transactions with the tenants, had decided to rent it to colored people. This is, by the way, not the first colored house on the street: there are eight other colored families there.

"In accordance with the owner's instruction, I sent notices by registered mail, on July 1, to each of the tenants, giving them thirty days' notice and notifying them of the proposed change.

"I am of the opinion that the letter does not come from the Klan, but from the white tenants of the house. I have taken up the matter with the Detective Bureau, however. I think it is time that the Klan, if it is the writer of the letter, realizes that Americanism is not a matter of creed or color, and that a real American does not hide behind a shroud or work behind one's back. The true American faces you in a fight."

There is at present a determined and concerted effort on the part of a good number of white persons to keep colored people away from the district south of 125th Street, but colored people are acquiring a greater foothold there each day, buying and renting property.

"It is up to the white tenants at 46 West 117th Street whether they move out to make room for colored tenants or not," said Harry Goodstein, 315 Central Park West, president of the West Harlem Property Owners' Association, when asked about the letter. "If they don't want to go, the emergency rent laws will protect them. It looks to me as if a real estate speculation is behind the matter."

Amsterdam Investigates Case.

A letter received from a correspondent, the facts of which have been investigated by The Amsterdam News and found to be true, shows white people on Fifth Ave. from Mt. Morris Park to 131st Street, are organizing to prevent Negroes from moving any further towards 125th Street.

"There is an apartment house at 10 East 130th St.," says the letter, "which is one of the best suited for our colored families, as there are nine rooms and bath in each apartment, and large rooms, too. The Rev. W. W. Smith, who lives there, is one of the worst Negro-haters in the neighborhood. He belongs to St. Andrew's Church, Fifth Avenue and 127th Street. He and his wife are passing a petition in that apartment asking every tenant to remain there in case Negroes buy the apartment."

Most of the occupants of the block in which this apartment house is located are colored.

"It appears," the letter continues, "that the rector of St. Andrew's, who is a Frenchman by birth, is a true Christian at heart, accepting a man, not for his color, but for his principles. He has no objection to ministering to colored people, and has married a few of them, but the Rev. Smith made it so hot for him that he had to stop. If any colored people dare to go to St. Andrew's they have a vestryman from the South who, prompted by Smith, prevents them from going any further than the third pew from the back on the side aisles. The rector, from what I hear, is helpless, as his vestry is composed of men who, like the Rev. Smith, are nigger-haters. And yet I heard a man say the other day: "It is a good thing that the niggers are ignorant and cowards, for, if they only knew that they could get in St. Andrew's without paying a cent for it. All they would have to do would be to go there about 500 strong every Sunday for six months or a year without stopping and present their letters of membership and they could not put them out and the church would soon be theirs; but they are not organized, and that is why we laugh at them."

Now, Mr. Editor, is there no way to stop Smith and his wife from interfering with the housing of our people? God knows that, as it is, they are herded as cattle; that large apartment where that man Smith lives is in a colored neighborhood.

"I understand also that the St. Andrew's apartment corner, 127th Street and Fifth Avenue, and the block next to it are owned by a Negro, but that the white people there, spurred by Smith, are holding their ground and have agreed to retain their apartments and defy 'the n——,' in order that St. Andrew's Church may be retained for the white people."

N.Y. NEGROES OUSTING WHITES

Testimony Shows Landlords Double Rents for Colored Families.

[By The Associated Press.]

New York, Oct. 16.—New York's colored belt in Harlem was rapidly expanding southward and landlords were supplanting white tenants with Negroes at doubled rents protecting New Yorkers testified to-day before the state commission on housing and regional planning, in support of statements that 705,612 persons were without adequate places of abode.

Segregation — 1923.

Missouri.

The Kansas City *Call* in a headline recently called attention to the fact that "segregation is costly and we pay the price." It said:

New York Age

Incidents are coming up continually that show an unfair state of mind in many of the men who dictate the conduct of public affairs. The country home for delinquent Negro boys is complained of by the grand jury because it is expensive to educate the thirty-one eligibles. Separate schools for Negroes are notoriously costly. Segregation in every detail is costly. Because we have a dominant white sentiment that demands it, many sections of the United States are committed to it. And worst of all, in these sections, just as here in Jackson county, there is a pronounced effort to make Negroes bear the burden of the added expense. Negroes are expected to accept without complaint an inferior public service. Equality before the law, much talked of, exists not at all in railroad service where segregation prevails. Men and women are crowded into one car, no accommodations such as are given the whites. No sleepers even for the sick, meals but seldom, and insults from every white passenger who chooses to disregard the law and smoke in the Negro section of a car.

The *Call* is right. Separate accommodations on the line of race or color usually mean inferior facilities provided at the same price. The caste system has no proper place under a republican form of government. The cost of race prejudice should be assessed on those responsible for its propagation.

3 NEGRO DISTRICTS MAY BE SET ASIDE BY CITY REALTORS

Large Majority of Exchange Members Vote for Segregation Plan.

An agreement by members of the Real Estate Exchange not to sell property to negroes hereafter outside of three established districts where negroes now predominate, and a plan to establish similar new districts for negroes, where some persons of that race now reside, in order to care for increased negro population, probably will be the outcome of a referendum vote now being taken by the exchange, according to O. J. McCawley, president.

More than two-thirds of the realtor members already have voted for the district plan, which was suggested to the exchange by improvement and property owners' organizations in all parts of the city. The districts were laid out by a committee composed of representatives of these organizations. They are parts of the city in which negroes compose at least 85 per cent of the population.

The three districts are laid out to provide for a total negro population of 100,000. Oficers of the exchange do not believe there are that many negroes in the city now.

The three districts, according to W. W. Kay, secretary of the exchange, actually were fixed first by owners of surrounding property who have up to now refused to sell to negroes. They contain the densest negro population in the city.

They are: 1. Territory bounded by the alley north of Easton avenue, running west to the alley east of Taylor avenue, north to St. Louis avenue, east to Lambdin avenue, south to Kennerly avenue, east on Kennerly to Goode avenue, south to Cottage, east to Belle Glade, and south to the alley north of Easton avenue.

Second District.

2. Beginning at Spring and Bell avenues, running west on both sides of Bell, to the alley west of Vandeventer avenue, south to Enright, west on both sides of Enright to the alley east of Taylor avenue, north to West Bell, east an both sides of West Bell to Newstead, north to Cook, both sides of Cook to 3800 Cook, south to the alley north of Bell, east to Spring and south to Bell.

3. All territory from the alley east of Grand boulevard, between the alley first south of Cass and the alley first north of Chouteau, to the Mississippi River.

Whites Expected to Move.

In the large district provided east of Grand boulevard, there now is a large white population. It is believed, however, that these whites will gradually move out as the negroes move in, and that the district eventually can care for a heavy influx of negroes before business buildings displace residences, Kay said this district ought to accommodate 100,000 persons.

The exchange does not plan to get behind any actual segregation legislation, McCawley said. The plan merely is to restrict the negroes to districts where they already are largely in the majority.

Kay said the exchange, with the aid of the Chouteau-Lindell Property Owners' Association, already has tried to establish an exclusive negro district in the 4200 block in Kennerly avenue with the co-operation of the negroes themselves, but so far unsuccessfully.

Agreement Defective.

A negro Pullman porter recently bought a home in this block, which had only white residents. Members of the Property Owners' Association previously had signed an agreement not to sell to a negro, but the agreement was defective. The association appealed to the exchange. The street is opposite Tandy Park, a negro playground and the negroes insisted it was properly a negro residential district. The white owners met and agreed to sell the rest of the block to negroes at a valuation appraised by a committee of the exchange. The plan then was submitted to negro real estate dealers for their co-operation, but although several months have elapsed, there have been no further sales.

Kay pointed out that because the negroes have separate schools, hospital facilities and playgrounds, it is not economical to scatter them over the city. The chief difficulty is that the great majority of negroes have no money to build or buy homes. The few who have sufficient funds generally want to buy or build homes outside the negro districts, to enjoy better surroundings for themselves and their children.

Segregations of Negro Districts Approved by Realtors' Referendum

99 Per Cent of 375 Members Ask Exclusive Sections for Blacks.

Practically 99 per cent of the 375 "realtor" members of the Real Estate Exchange have approved of the establishment of negro sections in certain outlined districts of the city through a referendum of the organization, W. W. Kay, executive secretary of the exchange, announced yesterday.

Official action by the exchange would have to be taken by the Board of Directors which has not, as yet considered the question other than to provide for the vote by mail. Adoption of the plan to establish the negro sections would mean the exchange would recommend that none of its members sell or rent property outside of the designated districts to negroes. Associate and other members of the organization who are not in the real estate business were not called upon to vote on the question.

The districts were drawn up by a committee, headed by J. F. O. Reller, composed of the officers of seventeen improvement and property owners' associations, and the submission of the districts to a vote of the real estate men was requested by the committee to secure an expression of the real estate men's attitude towards the subject, Kay said.

Three Districts Named.

The districts outlined by the committee are three in number, as follows:

1. Bounded by a line running through the alley north of Easton avenue, west to the alley east of Taylor avenue, north to St. Louis avenue, east to Lambdin avenue, south to Kennerly avenue, east on Kennerly to Goode avenue, south to Cottage, east to Belle Glade, south to the alley north of Easton avenue. Such blocks on Easton avenue which may be restricted are excepted.

2. Bounded by a line beginning at Spring and Bell avenues, west, taking in both sides of Bell, to the alley west of Vandeventer avenue, south to Enright, west on Enright (both sides) to the alley east of Taylor avenue, north to West Belle, east on West Belle (both sides) to Newstead, north to Cook, east on Cook (both sides) to 3800, south to the alley north of Belle, east to Spring, south to Belle.

All of the territory from the alley east of Grand boulevard, between the alley south of Cass avenue and the alley north of Chouteau avenue.

If there is not an alley behind any given street within the outside boundaries named, 200 feet from the street is used as the dividing line.

85,000 Negroes Here.

The estimate of the negro population of the city which Kay gave is 85,000, which allows for an increase of 15,000 since the 1920 census. The districts which were submitted to the exchange members allow for a very considerable expansion of the negro population without the extension of the boundaries because all of the houses are not occupied or are occupied by white people who may be expected to move to other parts of the city in time.

The first district is capable of housing 30,000 negroes he said, while only about one-fifth that number now live there. In the third district may be found about 67 per cent of the negro population, or about 57,000, he estimated, placing the capacity at 100,000.

In the 4200 block of Kennerly it was found that the restrictions did not exclude sales to negroes and the property owners sought the advice of the Real Estate Exchange, said Kay in giving an example of what the exchange has advised the different improvement associations. An agreement of all the property owners to sell to negroes, providing they could get a fair price, was secured, he said, and a committee was appointed to appraise the property. One negro had already bought property in the block, but no others would agree to purchase at the price established as an equitable one, Kay said.

The criticism of the negroes is that such districts would amount to segregation. Kay declared, however, that owners of property abutting on the proposed districts may legally come to an agreement not to sell to negroes.

REAL ESTATE EXCHANGE A MENACE

St. Louis Clarion
St. Louis, Mo.

WORK FOR THE INTER-RACIAL COMMISSION.

9-7-23

The Real Estate Exchange is still hammering away on its plan to segregate the Negro. That Exchange has no respect for court decision or anything else that prevents the Exchange from carrying out its original idea of segregation for the Negro.

In the press during the last week, the Exchange sent up a wail because it had set apart Kennerly avenue from Taylor to Sarah for Negroes and only one Negro bought or rented. The Exchange was doing well to get one Negro to buy under the circumstances. The whole street may have been sold three or four times over if the Exchange members had simply advertised the property for sale, without the "segregation clause." It is so strange that the Exchange cannot understand that forcing segregation on the Negro is out of the question, not because the Negro desires to live in white people's section, but because he wants to live in a house that suits him, without being told, "You can buy it because it is a Negro section." Tell him to buy it because it is a bargain and for sale not to Negroes only, but to any man with the money. Treat him as a man. Those with money enough to buy will not be treated any other way.

To try to segregate the Negro is contrary to law. The Exchange does not need to make any special plans or designate any particular place of abode for the Negro. He prefers to be with his own.

It is obvious that a housing shortage exists in this city. Homes available for Negroes are few, and becoming scarcer every day. Just as soon as a house is vacated east of Grand avenue auto manufacturers gobble up the property and build garages or shops in the district.

Why doesn't the Realty Exchange try to help meet the needs instead of running down property owners to get a pledge from them that they will not sell to Negroes.

The propaganda of the Exchange is directed against the Negro getting homes instead of trying to help solve the problem.

The Exchange is complicating the situation. The Exchange is doing everything it can to nullify and show contempt for the court which declared such a proceedure unlawful.

Since the carrying out of the bond issue will cause hundreds of Negro homes to be demolished, why is not the Exchange busy buying vacant lots in our district and building homes which can be sold or rented to our people on reasonable terms? This seems to us to be the sensible thing for the Realty Exchange to do.

Is it not a far better demonstration of the Christian spirit and business enterprise in city building to try and help the Negro secure homes than it is for the Exchange to try to prejudice property owners against the Negro. If they have any desirable property to sell list it with one of our real estate agents, as we certainly will not buy from the members of the Real Estate Exchange unless we have it to do.

We have several times talked over the matter with far-seeing men, men with no prejudice in the matter, and have suggested the subdivision sale method, in suburban improved property, but up till now nothing has been done. Our own financial concerns are now contemplating doing this.

It may be they will buy right where, in the future, the whites may not want us to live. Would it not prove wisdom for the Exchange to get together with our own men and proceed to work out a program that would do both races a good turn.

There are enough high-class white folks and Negroes in St. Louis with the money to get together and settle this difficulty.

We have in our advocacy of the Inter-racial Commission referred to this matter several times. So far as the race is concerned we are ready to meet the issues—through its commission.

Come, let us get together and do the thing that is right and helpful to both races. We want no conflict, and certainly going about trying to prejudice one race against the other is the work which the K. K. K. has set out to do. The Real Estate Exchange cannot afford to take the job away from the Klan, or to be accused of helping along any Klan activities. We hope the Exchange has not joined the Klan.

THE CLARION ENDORSES SEGREGATION

We note in last week's issue, the St. Louis Clarion came out in its leading editorial strong for segregation. This of course followed a news story headed with a streamer across the front page giving a dark picture of housing conditions among Negroes of the city.

St. Louis Argus

The coincidents, the one picturing "bad housing conditions" for Negroes in St. Louis, the language of the anti-Negro agitators; and the other endorsing segregation, makes it look like the Clarion is playing into the hands of the enemy.

We are at a loss to know whether these are expressions of real beliefs of the Clarion, or whether they were "parrot" words published without due consideration as to their meaning, or the probable effect on the mind of the public.

The Clarion attempts to show the benefits coming to the race through segregation. That is just the very identical thing the Real Estate Exchange and all other agencies do, who advocate segregation. Talk with any individual, or group, who advocates segregation, and one will find that in less than five minutes, reference will be made to "separate schools." And while we know that the law of Missouri provides separate schools for the Colored race, and as such, we should contend for the members of our race as teachers. But the underlying principle is wrong because it lays the foundation for untold evil.

We have that abiding faith in the ability, character and fitness of the professional men and women of our race, but we do not believe it is necessary to set them apart from other people to give them a chance to prove it.

9-28-23

Segregation as such, has no place in any well regulated government. In America, it is the by-products of slavery. No other civilized nation is so affected. It is a curse to any civilization.

St. Louis Argus

We regret to see the Clarion come out so bold for the thing that has cursed us as a race for many years past, and is destined to do worse in the future.

In the fight, we as a group are having just now, we need all the help we can get. As has been said, "every little bit helps."

The Anglo-Saxon Meets A Growing Race Problem

The Federated Press.

ST. LOUIS.—"Keep the niggers east of Grand boulevard and reclaim the city for the whites," said a speaker at a meeting of westside aristocrats called to devise means of restricting certain sections of St. Louis against Negroes. Such was the prevailant spirit throughout the meeting. One speaker was applauded when he said: "The Negro is a liability on the white man and a public charge, and the white man should be permitted to say where the Negro goes."

W. W. Kay, secretary, Real Estate exchange, explained a system of boycott carried on against Negroes by the exchange. By terms of an agreement which is signed by property owner and the exchange, the former forfeits his right to sell or rent to Negroes. Kay said the system was adopted by the exchange by a vote of 224 to 1, and added that it is a "crime" to permit Negroes to move into the west end district.

Bulletin

8-11-23

Steps to keep Negroes from using the parks for picnics were urged. After some further denunciation of "niggers," the meeting adjourned.

The Missouri Negro Republican club, with a 3000 membership, has written to J. G. Neun, president, board of aldermen, asking that he appoint a race commission of five white men and five Negroes to consider the growing race problem here.

Segregation—1923. Maryland.

BALTIMORE AFRO-AMERICAN
DECEMBER 30, 1923

NEGROES FIGHT RACE ISOLATION UNDER ZONE ACT

Ruling of Judge Heuisler Gets Sharp Criticism From Leaders; Vow to Contest Clause

PITT UPHOLDS PROVISION

Says Measure Will Aid People; Real Estate Board Prepares to Defend Law in High Courts

Negro leaders in Baltimore are opposed strongly to the race-segregation provision of the zoning law and are prepared to use every weapon to have it proven unconstitutional, they declared yesterday.

Strong approval, on the other hand, was expressed by C. Philip Pitt, secretary of the Real Estate Board, who declared that organization to be strongly in favor of segregation. The Board has appointed a committee, consisting of George R. Morris, William E. Ferguson, John J. Hurst and Philip S. Morgan, to procure the best legal talent to fight the case through higher courts.

DEFENDS PROVISION.

Mr. Pitt issued a statement defending the segregation clause of the zoning act. He said.

"The negro sections of the city are already dangerously overcrowded, but are being held from expansion by public opinion. Our previous attempt to enforce a segregation law failed because we discriminated against the negro.

"The absence of a fair law is causing the negro to suffer greater discrimination than such a law would impose. A fair zoning or racial colonization measure would be a godsend to the negro race. Under present conditions, every residential section in Baltimore is open to negro invasion."

Three negro leaders, however, attacked the idea of segregation. W Ashbie Hawkins, lawyer, was bitter in his criticism of the framers of the law. He said:

OPPOSED TO LAW.

"I am absolutely opposed to such a law. I believed from the start that it had a 'snake in the grass' aimed at my people, but I did not expect it to show itself so soon. I think Judge Charles W. Heuisler went out of his way to discover the segregation application. Segregation never will prevent riots, they will occur just as long as human nature remains what it is. What folks need is religion. This is another unnecessary attack upon the helpless negro; helpless because he is outnumbered."

W. L. Fitzgerald, former City Councilman, declared the law unfair to the negro race, and said he did not think Baltimore "small town enough" to stand for it. He expressed belief that the negroes could be trusted to keep to themselves through public opinion if the white property-owners could be trusted to sell their property to whites alone.

Carl Murphy, editor of the Afro-American,said he favored the zoning law, "but since the relations of the races in Baltimore are pleasant and cordial, I think that its extension to include segregation would be most unfortunate."

Segregation—1923.

Missouri.

COLORED MEN REPLY TO STORY ON SEGREGATION

Citizens, In Letter To President Of Real Estate Exchange, Reiterate Their Stand On The Question Of Residential Segregation.

Cite The Fact That Agitation Of This Kind Only Stirs Up Race Strife And Encourages Friction.

Because an article appearing in the daily papers with regard to an interview between members of the Real Estate Exchange and Dr. T. A. Curtis, J. E. Mitchell, Dr. W. P. Curtis and Gordon Simpson, created the wrong impression as to the object of the conference, the four above named, have written a letter to President O. J. McCawley of the Real Estate Exchange setting forth clearly substantially what was said and the position taken by the colored men during the exchange of ideas on the subject of residential segregation.

The follwoing is a copy of the letter sent Mr. McCawley last Monday:

St. Louis, Mo., June 2, 1923

Mr. O. J. McCauley,
President, Real Estate Exchange
St. Louis, Mo.
Dear Sir:

The account of the interview of the undersigned with a committee of the Real Estate Exchange as reported in the St Louis Star of Friday, June 1st, under the headline—"Real Estate Body Is Planning Negro Property District—Conference held With Race Leaders on Housing Conditions Here," gave only one side of the case and therefore created an entirely incorrect impression as to the attitude of the four colored men concerned. In order to correct this we are reiterating the facts as presented by us during the interview and are handing a copy of same to the local newspapers

The group of citizens which interviewed you last Thursday emphatically denied, in reply to your question, that they "represented the Negro Citizens," and specifically stated that they were seeking information as to the accuracy of the statements in the Star and other papers earlier in the week that the Real Estate Exchange had committed itself to a system of defined residential districts for Negroes in St. Louis. The group did not assume to reflect the entire sentiment of the almost 80,000 Negroes in the city, or even the majority of them.

The printing of articles in the newspapers with such headings as above and subheadings which give the impression to the average reader that the group of "Race Leaders" were in conference on such a plan, and that they endorsed and sanctioned such a plan, is the type of publicity and attempt to create public opinion which will defeat its purpose. If the fault for the above article does not lie with the press then the Real Estate Exchange should take steps to see that its negotiations are correctly and fully reported and not misleading by headines and implications which tend o grossly misrepresent the situaion.

Furthermore, the four colored men who interviewed your Committee definitely stated that under no account would the Negroes of St. Louis willngly submit to any system of segegation. It might be Forced upon hem by reason of conditions over which they had no control, but at no ime would they accept any curtailment of their legally constituted rights as citizens and tax-payers. Furthermore, not only will they not accept any segregation movement, or any arrangement which practically constitutes such, but they will resist with every legal means at their command any effort to further restrict and proscribe their freedom and rights.

Of the districts outlined by the Real Estate Exchange, the two in the west end of town are now practically occupied by Negroes and allow for very little expansion. It is estimated that between 75 and 80 per cent of the houses in these two territories are now in the hands o Negroes, and they are the dis tricts which will most likely and most easily fall to Negroes in the near future, regardless of the activi ies of the Real Estate Exchange because of proximity to territory already occupied

In regard to the district east o Grand from Chouteau to Cass, there is relatively little in the territory which is not now easily accessible t Negroes. It is also the one district in which a so-called "Protective" or "Improvement" society does not exis and therefore is "conceded" by th Real Estate Exchange, apparentl because there is no organized oppo sition on the part of whites in tha section. However, there is no assurance that there will not be in the future.

In addition to the above, the defining and accepting of definite boundaries within which Negroes shal reside, implies that they shall no attempt to purchase property outside of these boundaries which is in itself a restriction of their rights.

Further, we definitely stated to you during the interview, that the plan proposed is set up—even though unofficially—in defiance of the ruling of the Supreme Court and the of Missouri that there shall be sidential segregation by reasor ce or color. Does the Real Es Exchange set its arrangements er than the constituted law or ority of the State?

All of the above facts were stated by the undersigned during the interview and any statement to the contrary, either direct or by implication is a misrepresentation of the attitude of the four colored citizens concerned.

If the officers of the Real Estate Exchange are sincere in their effort o reach an amicable solution to the housing problem for Negroes they will further their purpose as well as gain the confidence of the colored people by stating both sides of the case and permitting the publication of only such articles as correctly represent the attitude of the colored people.

Yours for better housing,
Dr. T. A. Curtis,
Gordon H. Simpson,
Dr. W. P. Curtis,
J. E. Mitchell

HOUSING SEGREGATION.

Baltimore real estate operators have made a plea to the public for a housing segregation law. Our St. Louis Exchange, apparently more cognizant of the difficulties to be met, have attempted to do with public opinion what the Baltimore Exchange wants to do with the law. St. Louis Clarion

When prejudice enters ordinary intelligence seems to go out. Nothing except the most ignorant sort of race prejudice can be seen as a cause for an attempt at housing segregation in such communities as St. Louis and Baltimore. Both cities are sufficiently northern to have some of the northern liberality and sufficiently southern to cause Negro citizens to feel a deal of the soreness that always results from southern conditions.

But where colored people can both vote and accumulate money and wherever these things hold good in communities where there are indigent white persons, existing segregation in all its forms is doomed and any new form of segregation is impossible excepting that every member of both groups agrees on the segregation programs. St. Louis, Mo.

At St. Louis we have developed a certain degree of political and financial strength. Poro College, our Y. M. C. A. and Sumner High School are public evidence of colored St. Louisans' ability as administrators of affairs. 9-14-23

The Real Estate Exchange here, instead of succeeding in putting across any sort of segregation program, will probably succeed merely in concentrating the buying power of Negroes on those districts where white people do not want them. The Negro has passed the period in his development when he was easily intimidated. He must be shown definite, honest and sensible reasons why he should or should not do a thing whether it is buying a house or voting the Republican ticket

Segregation — 1923. Maryland.

REAL ESTATE BOARD ASKS SEGREGATION MEASURE

Afro — American Baltimore, Md. 9-7-23

Wants Some One To Propose Law To Keep Colored People Out Of Sections At Present White.

SECRETARY PITT TALKS

Admits Measure Should Be Elastic Enough To Allow Whites In Colored Sections

A new city segregation measure designed to keep colored people out of a section where whites are in the majority, but elastic enough to permit whites to reside in colored sections if they care to, has been proposed to the Real Estate Board by Secretary C. Phillip Pitt, white. The statement in part is:

"The constant influx of Negroes from the South is presenting a most difficult housing problem in many of the larger cities, due to the fact that the sections already occupied by Negroes are crowded, with no room for expansion except into white neighborhoods.

"Because the old segregation law was held unconstitutional by the Court of Appeals is no good reason why another attempt along this line should not be made There are many regulatory laws upon our statutes today which are being upheld by the highest courts but which could not have stood 20 years ago.

"Statistics could also be produced to prove that the public health would be better protected by such segregation. It is quite true that the constitution says something about equal rights for all citizens, but this document has been so distorted by changes and different interpretations by the courts from time to time to meet changing conditions that there are 'public emergencies' and the ever-certainly ample grounds upon which to justify another attempt to pass a fair segregation measure.

Secretary Pitt told the AFRO-AMERICAN that the statement grew out of a suggestion made by himself in the current number of *Realtors' Bulletin*, but that the Board had not and probably would take no official action along this line. "This would be too big a job for the Board to tackle," said Secretary Pitt.

When asked as to any specific plans, Mr. Pitt also stated that he had none, but thought the matter might be worked out by the Police Department which seems to have grown in power throughout the country of late and could make laws "for the general welfare."

Mr. Pitt declared that a measure was desired which would prevent individual colored families from living in blocks where the other residents were white. Asked if such a law would also prevent a white family from living in the same block with all other colored residents or keep a store in a colored block, Mr. Pitt said the "business end of it will have to be worked out by the general law of competition.

BRICKS FLY ON MADISON AVE.

Afro-American

Whites Bombard Home of Colored Tenant Friday; Colored Retaliate on Saturday

8-24-23

MYSTERY WOMAN APPEARS

Baltimore, Md.

Pays Fines of Colored Youths Arrested Then Disappears in Auto

Whites in the 1600 block of Madison avenue tried to drive out Mrs Florence Murray, who recently moved into the dwelling at 1610, by throwing brick through every window of the first and second floors around midnight Saturday.

Victor Blue and Russell Griffith, 1611 Madison avenue, and Kennard West, 1608 Madison, and Ernest Brooks, 1607 Madison avenue, all white youngsters, arrested by police on warrants sworn out by Mrs. Murray, were discharged by Magistrate Ranft in the Northwestern Police Station wit ha warning Wednesday. Two of these boys were positively identified by Mrs. Murray as ones whom she saw with bricks in their hands.

In retaliation for the bombing of Mrs. Murray's home, a white resident was stoned Saturday night Police who hastened to the scene found none of the attackers. Five youngsters found in the neighborhood were arrested on the charge of disorderly conduct. They were John Cook, 957 Druid Hill avenue; Archie Ford, 1126 Mosher street; Singleton Jones, 1377 Carey street; Johns Carter, 505 Baker street; Theodore Ashby, 2125 Druid Hill avenue.

All the boys denied any connection with the affair, but nevertheless each was fined $10 and costs Parents of two of the boys were able to put up the amount of the fines immediately. It looked as if three of the boys would be held behind the bars.

Right then a mystery lady stepped up and asked the names of the boys who could not pay their fines. Raching down into a pocketbook she came up with a handful of bills of large denomination and paid the $30 and costs.

An AFRO reporter followed the well dressed mystery lady outside the station in an effort to learn her identity. However she was whisked away in her automobile.

Officers are now constantly on guard in the Madison avenue block. Mrs. Murray declares she will continue to occupy the dwelling.

MOB BOMBARDS AN EMPTY HOUSE

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 9-14-23

A crowd of a dozen or more white rowdies bombarded the residence at 2446 Frances street, Wednesday night, smashing in the storm door and the big bay window on the first floor. Scrap iron from the United Railways shops nearby was used as missiles.

This block of Francis street is located north of North avenue, between Druid Hill avenue and Etting street. The neighborhood is chiefly taken up by employees of the street car company.

Around 8 o'clock colored people on Druid Hill avenue heard the crash of glass and soon the whole block of Francis street was filled with white and colored people. A reporter of the AFRO sent in the call for the police.

The house was purchased recently, it is said, by a local agent for Miss Adeline Stump and Miss Annie James, 1909 McCulloh street. They moved their things in Wednesday, but were not in the house at the time. Police were left on guard.

When Augustus Johnson, 573 Presstman street, and Carrol B. Day, watchman in Federal employ, went to look at the damage Thursday morning. Day was arrested for carrying a revolver. He was held at the Northern Police Station for an hour, until word came from the custom House that he was authorized to carry it.

SEGREGATION IN BALTIMORE AND St. LOUIS

Kansas City Star

Baltimore, Md., Oct. 10.—According to C. Philip Pitt, secretary of the Real Estate Board of Baltimore, 'the sections of the city which have been given over as the homes of the Negro have become so overcrowded from the influx of migration from the South, that there is nothing left for the new arrivals to do but to live in the sections occupied by white families." 10-13-23

It appears that the Baltimore realtors, taking new courage from the new Democratic administration will attempt to revive racial segregation, which was declared unconstitutional by the U. S. Supreme Court Pitt insists that Baltimore's segregation law, which was passed over by the Court of Appeals, might have stood the test if its framers had made provisions for colored people A new slant of opposition to pressing any manner of segregation has developed from the white people themselves upon the presumption that any such segregation in sections bordering on white residential districts would naturally expand to absorb their property. The segregationalists are therefore at loss for a mode of procedure, especially since the influential colored citizens will resist it to the lost ditch.

SEGREGATION IS SEEN FOR BALT. AND ST. LOUIS

Chicago Daily Tribune 10-20-23

Try to Renew Scheme Outlawed by Court

(Lincoln Service)

BALTIMORE, Md., Oct. 13.—According to C. Philip Pitt, secretary of the Real Estate Board of Baltimore, "the sections of the city which have been given over as the homes of the Negro have become so overcrowded from the influx of migration from the South, that there is nothing left for the new arrivals to do but to live in the sections occupied by white families." Chicago

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In St. Louis,

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Oct. 13.—Three hundred and seventy-five members of the St. Louis Real Estate Exchange have approved a plan for the establishment of a Negro residential section of the city. The plan of segregation has for its fundamental force the refusal to sell property to colored people in other sections than those set aside from them. The claim has been made that the colored populations of 65,000 in 1920 has increased through migration to more than 100,000, and that some action for housing of the migrants is imperative. It is said that colored people will press their opposition to the new ruling in court, if necessary, even to the point of holding that the action of the real estate men is conspiracy.

COMMITTEE IS NAMED ON SEGREGATION

Afro American Baltimore Md. 10/27/23

Admitting that there is at present no workable scheme to prevent colored people from purchasing homes in any section of the city, the Real Estate Board (white) at a recent meeting named a committee of three to draft a segregation measure.

The committee consists of John J. Hurst, J. C. Martien and George R. Morris, all leading white realtors. According to C. Philip Pitt, secretary of the board, they will seek to have the city council or the Legislature pass some kind of segregation measure, which will permit colored people to live in certain neighborhoods, but keep them out of others. This measure it is said, must be delicately drawn so as not to prevent white people from living in colored sections for business purposes.

In some sections of the city "neighborhood associations" have been formed, members of which contract not to sell or rent to colored peopl. Mr. Pitt admitted that these contracts can not be legally enforced if properly carried before the courts

MR. PITT AND SEGREGATION

Mr. Pitt, secretary of the Real Estate Board in newspaper articles, i trying to revive the segregation menace. We do not know whether th secretary of the Real Estate Board speaks for himself alone or for the board

He seeks to create the usual impression white men endeavor to create when they plan to deprive the Negro group of any right or privilege.

So to say, he declares himself a humanitarian, wants the Negro housed but of course the white man must decide where he shall make his domicile

He would secure by indirection what the courts have already declared a violation of the Constitution, by zoning laws under police power to regulate the health of the community.

And stranger that all, Mr. Pitt affects to believe that the intelligent and better class of Negroes will accept segregation, thus sanctioning and approving their own humiliation and discomfort.

Whoever believes in any city, North South, that intelligent and self-respecting Negroes will accept or approve of any sort of segregation whatever has another dream coming to him. The Negro believes and will never surrender the belief that he has a right to buy, lease or rent a home wherever he has the money to pay for the same and the owner is willing to sell, lease or rent.

It is the right of any property owner to refuse to sell to Negroes and equally the right of groups to pledge themselves to refuse so to sell, but we do not believe any such agreements are binding if carried into court.

It might be just as well, now as later, for it to be understood that the Negroes of Baltimore will never stand hitched to a segregation law, however beneficient it may seem in the white man's eyes, and whoever undertakes and succeeds in passing one will bump into trouble

Baltimore Attempts To Segregate Homes

BALTIMORE, Md., July 26.—The race issue, once set aside by higher courts as to residential qualifications, was raised again last week when Harry H. Burns and his wife with the Harlem Park Protective Association, applied through Webster C. Tall for an injunction against Abraham Williams, 1201 North Caroline street, and Elford Barton, 810 North Gilmor street.

The complaint is that Williams entered into an agreement with the association whereby he would not sell or rent property to colored residents in the 800 block North Gilmor street. Some years ago the higher courts declared a segregation act invalid after a measure had been passed in the city council restraining residence in city blocks where there was a majority of white residents.

"EYE FOR EYE" TACTICS USED IN BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE, Aug. 25.—In spite of the teaching of Jesus Christ, the colored people of this city still believe in the old Mosaic law: "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." Their belief was plainly demonstrated Friday when their white neighbors did them an injustice. The white people became angry because some colored families moved into their district at 1610 Madison avenue, and early Friday morning they went by the colored people's homes and broke out the glass windows and doors. Two hours later the police were notified that a gang of colored people with bricks and milk bottles had broken out the glass windows and doors of three houses belonging to white people. The police believe that the colored people were retaliating for the damage done their homes.

COWARDS ATTACK BALTIMORE CITIZENS

Threw Bricks and Stones In Window As Objection to Presence In House

Baltimore, Md., Sept. 21.—A crowd of hoodlums, estimated at about thirty, threw bricks and stones in a house at 2446 Francis street, which recently was occupied by a Colored family. The block hitherto has held only white families.

Real estate men say that all of the residents in the 2400 block are tenants, none of them owning the property on which they live. When it was learned that a Colored family had purchased property adjacent to that on which they lived as tenants, the hoodlum element of the block threw stones and bricks through the window after the family had retired.

The family evidently was prepared for just such trouble, because when the man of the house, whose name was not learned, went to a window with his shotgun, the cowards had run away out of sight. The chief of police stationed two of his men near the house as guards after the trouble

Baltimore Again Tries Residential Segregation

BALTIMORE, Md., Aug. 4.— The race issue, once set asibe by higher courts as to the residential qualifications, was raised again last week when Harry H. Burns, and his wife, with the Harlem Park Protective Association, applied through Webster C. Tall for an injunction against Abraham Williams, 1201 N. Caroline street, and Elford Barton, 810 N. Gilmore street.

The complaint is that Williams entered into an greemet wth the association whereby he would not sell or rent property to colored residents in the 800 block of N. Gilmore treet Some years ago the higher courts declared a segregation act invalid after a measure had been passed in the city council restraining residence in city blocks where there was a majority of white residents.

NEGROES ESENT ATTAC
OF WHI ES ON THEIR

An attack on the homes of tages by the whites of the 1600 block Madison avenue, was returned by the Negroes. The excitement occurred early Sunday morning. The whites having been aroused on Saturday because Negroes moved into what was to them "white blocks."

The police of the Northwestern district were called to 1610 Madison avenue early Sunday morning when they arived they found that the house had been badly damaged. The whites are greatly incensed over the affair.

[BALTIMORE] MORN. SUN
MARCH 16, 1923

TO CHECK NEGRO INVASION

Harlem Park Association Extends Its Boundaries.

More than 200 persons last night attended a meeting of the Harlem Park Protective Association in Central Methodist Church South.

Further plans to [illegible]k any attempts of negroes to buy [illegible]s adjoining the park were formulated.

The boundaries of the association were extended to comply with the requests of many new members. The new boundaries are Fulton avenue, Lafayette avenue, Carey street and Mulberry street.

It is planned to incorporate the association before the next meeting, which will be held at the church Thursday.

Segregation — 1923

TWO NEIGHBORHOODS ACT TO BAR NEGROES

Injunction Against Colored Occupancy Of 1207 Bolton St. Extended To 1209.

Two cases of negroes moving into white residential districts today resulted in action to keep the neighborhoods free from the colored householders.

Fearing that efforts would be made by Joseph and Frieda Kimmel to circumvent the injunction restraining them from renting the property at 1207 Bolton street to negroes, residents of that block today petitioned Judge Duke Bond to extend the order to cover the house at 1209 Bolton street also. The request was granted.

Plan To Form League.

Residents of the 1500 block of Madison avenue planned to form a league similar to the Neighborhood Corporation, which consists of residents of the 1200 block of Bolton street, in an effort to oust a family of negroes from the property at 1504 Madison avenue.

The property at 1504, which is a three-story house, has been owned by Josiah Biggs, colored, for the last year. It has, however, until recently, been rented to white tenants.

According to R. F. Venick, 1507 Madison avenue, and Dr. Mary Baughman, 1502 Madison avenue, an organization of persons living in the block is now being effected, and counsel will be retained to take such steps as are necessary to oust this family and to bar other negroes from the neighborhood.

To Make Resistance.

The petitioners in the Bolton street case declared that since the granting of the first injunction they had learned that Matthew Willis and his wife, Rose Willis, both colored, were planning to move into the house next door to that against which the court issued the order. This building is also the property of the Kimmels.

The indications are that persons living in the neighborhood of the Kimmel properties are going to make a determined resistance against the "invasion."

The first step in the fight was taken yesterday when Mrs. Ida M. Ball, 1211 Bolton street, and the Neighborhood Corporation, composed of owners of 75 per cent. of the property in that block, petitioned Judge Bond, in Circuit Court No. 2, to grant the injunction against the negroes.

Besides owning three-quarters of the property in the affected Bolton street section, the corporation claims to own 75 per cent. of the territory including both sides of West Lanvale street, from Eutaw Place to Mount Royal avenue, and on Linden avenue, Park avenue and John street, from Dolphin street to Lafayette avenue.

INJUNCTION GRANTED BARS FAMILY FROM BOLTON ST. DWELLING

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

New Form of Segregation Measure Attempted by Whites In Northwestern Section

2-2-23

In a fight to bar colored people forever from that neighborhood bounded by Eutaw Place, Mt. Royal Avenue, Dolphin Street and Lafayette Avenue, two injunctions have been obtained in Circuit Court No. 2, the second of which was signed by Judge Duke Bond, Wednesday temporarily restraining Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Willis from occupying the premises at 1207 Bolton street.

Some time ago Mr. and Mrs. Willis obtained for residence purposes the property at 1209 Bolton street but was prevented by injunction from moving into the house. This injunction was obtained by Mrs. Ida M. Ball. Following this they obtained use of the property at 1207 which is owned by Joseph and Freda Kimmel and were preparing to move in when the injunction in amended form was signed by Judge Bond.

The injunction is based on an agreement entered into in 1919 by the Neighborhood Corporation and sets out that in the neighborhood bounded by the above streets no property shall ever be sold, rented or otherwise conveyed to Negroes or persons having African blood in their veins. It, however, allows white residents to permit servants in their employ to occupy parts of the premises for whom they are employed. Since this agreement some of the property has changed ownership and it is this property belonging to new owners which is in litigation.

Those signing the original agreement are J. Seymour, T. Walters, Atty. Joseph C. France, Franklin Hazelhurst, Dr. James D. Iglehart, M. W. Iglehart, Thomas Marshall Smith, Yates Sterling, Ellen S. Sterling, Eliza L. Littell, Emily B. Whitley, Turnbull Murdock, R. Lee France, and Robert Seff.

KIMMEL TO FIGHT NEIGHBORS IN COURT

Afro-American

White Man Prevented From Selling To Colored Family Will Answer Injunction

Baltimore, Md.

WISE MEN UNDECIDED

2-16-23

Hasty Action In Disposing of Madison Ave., Property Not Likely

Date for a hearing in the injunction proceedings brought by the Neighborhood Corporation and Mrs. Ida M. Ball, white, against Joseph Kimmel, white, and Matthew Willis, restraining the latter from moving into 1209 Bolton street has not been set owing to the fact that Mr. Willis is in New Jersey and has not been served with the order.

Mrs. Willis, who resides at 235 Dolphin street, and who is also included in the temporary restraining order has been served with the order of injunction but does not know yet just what steps will be taken in the matter.

Joseph Kimmel, to whom the property at 1209 belonged, and who is restrained in the action from selling this property to Willis or any colored people, will fight the order when it comes up in court.

So far no legal steps have been taken by residents in the neighborhood of Madison avenue and Preston street, where the Seven Wise Men's organization has acquired a building which they intended to make their meeting place, but it is known that since the granting of the injunction in the Bolton street case, considerable open opposition and threatened legal action has been threatened.

Directors of this organization will meet Friday night and no doubt one of the matters that will come up for consideration will be the disposition of this property. While it is known that some of the officials advocate a determined refusal to give up the Madison street location, just how the matter will turn cannot be told until the Friday meeting.

The Park Heights Avenue Improvement Association, white, it is understood, will take some steps to not only segregate their neighborhood but eject some colored people now living on Shirley avenue.

While no definite steps have been taken to curb the wave of attempted segregation and barring of Negroes from white neighborhoods, it is certain that civic organizations will follow with interest the development of affairs along this line.

The basis by which the residents on Bolton street has invoked the injunction proceedings rests in an alleged contract and agreement in which certain residents there took part several years ago. The enacting clause of this agreement states that "*** That neither the said respective properties nor part of them shall be at any time occupied or used by any Negro or Negroes or person or persons either whole or in part of Negro or African descent, except that Negroes or persons of African descent may be employed as servants by any of the owners or occupants of the said respective properties."

BALTIMORE MD NEWS
FEBRUARY 1, 1923

RESIDENTS PLAN TO FORCE NEGROES OUT

1400 And 1500 Blocks Of Madison Avenue Stirred

Encouraged by the action of residents of the 1200 block Bolton street in resisting the negro invasion which threatened that block, the residents in the 1400 and 1500 blocks Madison avenue will take action to remove a negro family which recently moved into the block.

According to statements made by Dr. Mary Bochman, 1502 Madison avenue, and R. V. Venick, 1507 Madison avenue, a petition is being arranged which all the property-owners in the 1400 and 1500 blocks will sign. Since the coming of the negro family into the neighborhood several families of that block have moved away.

The property at 1504 Madison avenue is owned by Josiah Diggs, a colored real estate dealer at 2331 Druid Hill avenue. Diggs has owned the property for several years, and the failure to keep it in condition has on several occasions brought protests from the neighbors. It has been vacant since last August up until the negroes moved into it several days ago.

A piece of property on the corner of Madison avenue and Preston street was recently acquired by a negro fraternal order, to be used as a clubhouse. This also caused some protest in that neighborhood. But the building has since been put up for sale, as the organization abandoned its plans of building on that corner.

Whites Object To Colored People Residing In These Dwellings

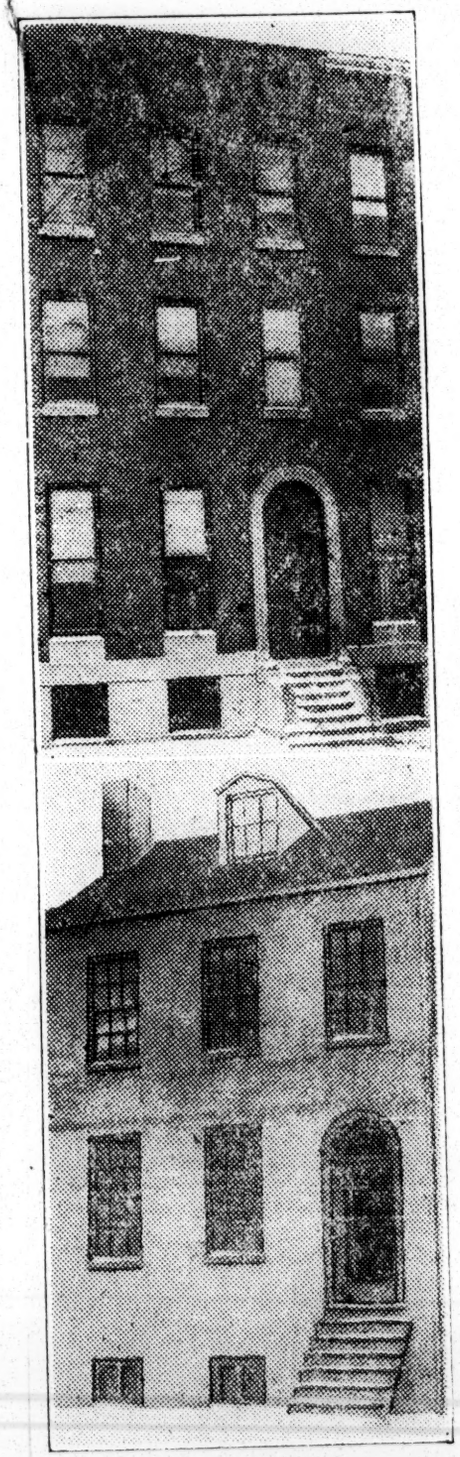

Photo by Penn Studio

The 1504 Madison Avenue, house owned by Josiah Diggs, well known proprietor of the Dunbar Theater and rented out by him to colored tenants.

Below, the corner of Madison avenue and Preston street purchased by the Order of Seven Wise Men.

Owners in both neighborhoods, urged on by the daily newspapers are said to be combining to keep colored people from remaining in these houses.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md
2-16-23

INJUNCTION GRANTED ESTABLISHING WHITE BLOCKS IN BALTIMORE

St. Louis mo
St. Louis argus 2-16-23

BALTIMORE, Feb. 14.—Judge Duke Bond of Circuit Court No. 2, this city has granted an injunction to the Neighborhood Corporation, a white organization, restraining Mr. and Mrs. Rose Willis, colored from moving into what the whites claim is a 'white block." The order also enjoins the owners of the property in question from selling or renting it to other than white persons. The petition of the applicants for the injunction claims that they represent 75% of the property owners in the block and that if Negroes live in the block it will lower the value of the property.

Injunction Granted Establishing White Blocks in Baltimore

Pittsburg American
2-9-23

BALTIMORE, Feb. 9.—Judge Duke Bond of Circuit Court No. 2, this city has granted an injunction to the Neighborhood Corporation, a white organization, restraining Mr. and Mrs. Rose Willis, colored, from moving into what the whites claim is a "white block." The order also enjoins the owners of the property in question from selling or renting it to other than white persons. The petition of the applicants for the injunction claims that they represent 75% of the property owners in the block and that if Negroes live in the block it will lower the value of the property.

Residents of the 1500 block of Madison avenue planned to form a league similar to the Neghborhood Corporation, which consists of residents of the 1200 block of Bolton street, in an effort to oust a family of Negroes from the property at 1504 Madison avenue.

The property is 1504, which is a three-story house, has been owned by Josiah Biggs, colored, for the last year. It has, however, until recently, been rented to white tenants.

According to R. F. Venick, 1507 Madison avenue, and Dr. Mary Baughman, 1502 Madison avenue, an organization of persons living in the block is now being effected, and counsel will be retained to take such steps as are necessary to oust this family and to bar other Negroes from the neighborhood.

RESIDENTS PLAN TO FORCE NEGROES OUT

Dallas Express
1400 And 1500 Blocks Of Madison Avenue Stirred.
Dallas, Texas

Baltimore, Md. Feb. 15.—Encouraged by the action of residents of the 1200 block Bolton St., in resisting the negro invasion which threatened that block, the residents in the 1400 and 1500 blocks Madison Ave., will take action to remove a negro family which recently moved into the block. 2-17-23.

According to statements made by Dr. Mary Bochman, 1502 Madison Ave., a petition is being arranged which all the property owners in the 1400 and 1500 blocks will sign Since the coming of the negro family into the neighborhood several families of that block have moved away.

The property at 1504 Madison Ave. is owned by Josiah Diggs, a colored real estate dealer at 2334 Druid Hill avenue. Diggs has owned the property for several years.

A piece of property on the corner of Madison avenue and Preston St. was recently acquired by a negro fraternal order, to be used as a club-house. This also caused some protest in the neighborhood. But the building has since been put up for sale, as the organization abandoned its plans of building on that corner.

RESIDENTS NEAR HARLEM SQUARE ARE NOT WORRIED

Quietly Await Attempt of White Association To Force Them Out of Homes

N. A. A. C. P. ON JOB

Watches Procedure and Offers Legal Aid When Needed

Sun American
3/23/23

Prospects of a legal fight to keep colored people out of the Harlem Park neighborhood does not seem to be worring colored families living in that vicinity.

A recent report in a local daily paper stated that at an "indignation" meeting of the Harlem Park Protective Association in Central Methodist Episcopal Church it was decided to resort to legal action against a Negro family to have them evictied from the four hundred block of North Mount street.

This report also stated that like action would be taken in the case of four colored families in the four hundred block of North Carey street, this section being formerly inhabited by whites exclusively.

It was reported that formal complaint would be made before Judge Duke Bond by the Association's attorney, Webster C. Tall.

Most of the property in the four hundred block of North Mount street is either owned or being bought by colored people and a colored resident of this block upon being interviewed on the matter stated that a test case against one family by the Association may be made to test its power, so that if in the future the whites wish to take possession of the entire block, they will know how to proceed.

He also stated his belief that it would be a difficult matter for the Association to secure an injunction against even one family and in conclusion said that no one in the eighborhood seemed to be worried in the least over the matter.

Another resident, a property holder when asked his opinion, replied, "Well I'm here and have no idea of vacating for sometime."

An investigation into the North Carey street matter brings to light the fact that there are no colored families living in the four hundred block or anywhere on this street below the seven hundred block. Dr. Ernest Lyon is the nearest colored home owner affected.

N. A. A. C. P. On Job.

Copies of the agreements made by certain local white associations excluding colored people from certain neighborhoods were studied carefully by legal authorities of the National organization of the N. A. A. C. P.

These agreements it was declared will not hold in law, and the association,n it is said is willing to make a test case of the first attempt made by white associations to evict any colored home owner.

Local Branch N.A.A.C.P. To Plan Resistance To Attempt In Segregation

Baltimore Herald

Because of the organization and activities of the Harlem Park Protective Association, formed several weeks ago by residents in the vicinity of Harlem Park to renew segregation in Baltimore despite the court decision declaring segregation unlawful, the colored people of the city backed by the N. A. A. C. P. are laying plans for a legal battle over the new form of segregation. 3/28/23

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which has a large membership among the Negroes of this city, has already referred agreements drawn up by the white association to its legal advisers and plans to decide upon a course of action at the next meeting of the executive committee.

Mr. C. L. Pinderhughes, secretary of the N. A. A. C. P. says legal advisers hold that the agreements drawn by white property owners of the Harlem Park district, are illegal. They therefore plan to make a test of the first case of opposition to Negroes moving into the proposed restricted territory.

"When a Negro buys property in any section," says Mr. Pinderhughes, "he is the owner of that property, and no one has a legal right to force his eviction. We desire no bad feeling between the races, but we cannot see members of our race exposed to financial loss through purchase of properties that cannot be occupied without causing racial prejudice."

To Oppose Negro "Invasion"

Residents Of Harlem Park Organize To Keep "White Blocks" Intact

BALTIMORE SUN NEWS
MARCH 10, 1923

In an effort to prevent the encroachment of negroes in the old residential section surrounding Harlem Park, property-owners in the neighborhood last night formed an organization which will use every legal means to keep the present "white blocks" intact.

The meeting was held in Central Methodist Episcopal Church South and 95 property owners attended. Numerous residents who rent their homes also were present.

The organization will be known as the Harlem Park Protective Association. George I. Studebaker, 716 North Gilmor street, was elected president. Webster C. Toll, an attorney with offices in the Fidelity Building, was chosen as counsel. Several attorneys are included in the membership, and an advisory board consisting of these attorneys will be formed.

The purpose of the organization, according to its constitution, will be to protect and enhance the value of all property in the area bounded by Carey, Lanvale, Mount and Franklin street. Each owner of property in that area will be asked to sign an agreement pledging himself not to sell his property to a negro. Legal action will be taken, it is said, against any owner who sells to other than a white person.

Segregation — 1923.

Indiana.

Indiana Judge Upholds Right to Segregate

The Chicago Defender 8/4/23

Muncie, Ind., Aug. 3.—The right of public parks to segregate our people was upheld in the circuit court here by Judge Clarence Dearth. Attorney Henry Alexander asked damages for being ordered to leave the "white section" of McCullough park. He charged that under the civil rights bill the color line could not be drawn.

Judge Dearth held that segregation in parks, hotels and places of amusement was permitted so long as such places provided equal accommodations for our people. Attorney Alexander will take his case to a higher court.

Segregation—1923

Kansas.

THIRD BOMB HITS HOME OF TEACHER

Dallas Express
Dallas, Texas
3-10-23

Kansas City, Kans., March 9.—Writing in January, the Southeast Improvement Association, made public a manifesto in which it said:

"We are determined that the district between Euclid and Benton and from 20th to 31st Street shall remain white territory and to this end our organization holds as hostile to the best interests of said district all persons who in any manner encourage, aid or assist in any manner, the occupancy of ownership of property in this district by Negroes." The association then specifies as hostile acts, sale, renting, making loans or furnishing insurance for property for Negroes. The names of C. Murphy, R. N. DeVault, Geo. Griffin and Wm. Eubanks are given as officers.

* * * *

Shortly after midnight Tuesday the home of Miss Ida Williams, teacher at Attucks School and her widowed sister, Mrs. Sadie Collins, at 21st and Park, was bombed for the third time. The bomb was thrown from Park Avenue and damaged the rear of the house. Miss Bessie Taylor, a teacher of domestice science, recently out of the hospital, suffered a most severe nervous shock, the only injury done to person. Nearly $100 damage was done to the house.

The sisters have gone through so much that they feel they might as well stick it out now, and are determined to remain "until the Lord moves us."

Segregation—1923

Long Island.

Vandals Prevent Negro Family From Living in L. I. Home

New York Age
4-7-23

Roosevelt, L. I.—John Stevendon, a Negro taxicab driver, who purchased a house at 75 Stevens street, which he had not taken occupancy of, has abandoned any idea he may have had of doing so after a series of occurences which are yet to be solved, and disposed of the property to Charles Green, white, of Freeport.

The white folks of the neighborhood are credited with having forced Stevendon to sell out, declaring they would not have a Negro family living on that street.

Soon after Stevendon bought the property, windows in the house were wrecked by bricks. Next the house was set afire, it is claimed, by the use of kerosene and gasoline.

Ths was enough for the taxi driver and a "For Sale" plan was decided on. The Grand Jury at Mineola is expected to investgate the acts of vandalism.

Segregation—1923.

Louisiana.

SEGREGATION ORDINANCE INTRODUCED IN D. C.

Chicago Whip

9-29-23

NEW ORLEANS, La., Sept. 29.—An ordinances has been introduced in the commission council forbidding the issuance of building permits for the erection of structures for the use of Negroes in white communities, and no permits for the erection of structures for whites in Negro communities where protest is made.

NEW ORLEANS LA ITEM
SEPTEMBER 6, 1923

Race Segregation Ordinance Is Now Before Council

Negroes are to be refused permits to build houses in white sections; and whites in negro sections, by an ordinance introduced before the commission council.

Other matters to go before the meeting next Tuesday night are:

Complaints against Moulin Rouge found unfounded in report of Commissioner Ray.

Petitions for making Magazine street a "white way" received from Jefferson Market Business Men's association, Ewing Market Business Men's league, Magazine Street Wholesale Merchants association, Magazine Street Market Business Men's association.

Petition from P. J. McMahon and company to improve funeral home at Canal and Bernadotte.

Communication from board of fire commissioners, urging more drastic laws against steamers polluting the river with oil.

Request of P. B. Habans, secretary of parish school board, that ordinance be passed providing for operation of quasi-public market on the site of the old Delamore market.

Bid of $92,000 made by Stoner, Galager and Groos to supply city with set of assessment maps.

Protest by Harold A. Moise, attorney of Foto market, Algiers, against "city's failure to protect the franchise it granted" by allowing competition within 3200 feet.

NEW ORLEANS LA STATES
SEPTEMBER 23, 1923

ro Houses Barred rom White Districts

Negroes are not permitted to erect dings or other structures for occupancy in white residential districts, according to an opinion handed down Tuesday by City Attorney Kittredge at the request of Commissioner Ray in connection with the complaint by white residents against the erection of a negro church at North Claiborne and Touro streets. Mr. Kittredge based his opinion on Act 117 of 1912, which gives the city government full power to prevent the erection of houses for use of negroes in white settlements. The protest was returned to the Commission Council by Commissioner Black. Commissioner Murphy acting commissioner of public property filed the formal protest against the issuance of such a building permit.

NEW ORLEANS LA ITEM
SEPTEMBER 10, 1923

Negro Segregation Law Scrutinized

Rene Viosca, acting city attorney, said Saturday that Assistant City Attorney Jones is making an extensive investigation before giving an opinion on the lagility of Ordinance 7793, which prohibits the issuance of permits for the construction of negro houses in white communities, and white houses in negro communities.

Many cases have recently been before the council. Property owners who refused permits to build in certain districts have attacked the ordinance, and as a result, the council asked city attorney to decide the question.

Segregation – 1923

Georgia.

ATLANTA ZONING LAW UPHELD BY RECORDER

Negress Will Appeal Her Case to the Superior Court.

Atlanta Constitution 1-19-23

Recorder George E. Johnson Thursday afternoon upheld the constitutionality of the city zoning ordinance when he fined Christine Parks, negress, of 15 Taylor street, $50 and cost and ordered her to comply with the law. The woman, through her attorneys, immediately announced her intention to appeal the case to higher courts in contest of the constitutionality of the law.

The Taylor woman, according to charges preferred, lives in a block which the zoning map specifies as a "white district." A case against her was made Tuesday by City Building Inspector C. J. Bowen, who acted as prosecutor.

Future action of higher courts will be awaited with considerable interest, in view of the fact that this is the first legal test of the constitutionality of the zoning ordinance.

THE RACE ZONING EVIL.

A recent report in the daily press states that citizens in the vicinity of Foote, Mayson and Maud Street have petitioned the city planning commission to have the white zone extended through this area to exclude Negroes from moving in. The report stated that because of the migration of many Negroes from the farm to this city, housing has been difficult, as many as forty-two persons having applied for one house in this section. When it is remembered that already the Negroes are hemmed in the city on all sides, after discovering this little outlet, it would be a little worse than shameful to hold them off there. They are already completely bottled in, and their last effort to get out was met by threats of violence. What are they going to do!

We understand that the city planning commission has for its purpose the expansion and development of the city to take care of the three hundred thousand people the city fathers hope to have come here by 1930. All Atlanta has been yelling, "500,000 by 1930." Do they mean an addition of white folks only? Do they mean that they already have enough Negroes? Do they mean to bottle in what they have as a means of keeping them? Do they love us so well as to put us in the middle and live all around us, or build factories all about us in which we might work? Just what do they mean, we would like to know.

The zoning system of Atlanta is considerably harsh, both as to race and business and manufacturing. As to business and manufacturing, we are about to get smoked out to that place which we haven't to go. Then, the only alternative seems to be a good case of smothering.

If the city fathers have in mind any influx of Negroes to help swell Atlanta's population, they have a peculiar way of extending an invitation. And as for us who are here, allowing us no place to live seems to be an invitation to get out and "went" somewhere.

Dr. M. Ashby Jones aptly puts it when he says that Atlanta should prepare itself to adequately take care of the 200,000 population she already has before talking of bringing in 300,000 more people.

NEGRO MIGRATION TO BRING CHANGES IN ZONING OF CITY

Atlanta Independent

Atlanta Constitution 10-9-23

Negro migration from farms to Atlanta has resulted in encroachment of negro residences into sections formerly inhabited by white people, it developed during a spirited controversy before the city planning commission Monday between property owners in the neighborhood of Foote, Hayson and Maude streets.

Petition by white property owners to have the white zone extended into territory heretofore not zoned as to race, was taken under advisement by the commission. It will not be possible, it was stated, to evict negroes who have already moved into this territory.

Property owners stated that as many as 42 negroes applied to rent one house in that section in a week's time. The negro population around industrial centers is being increased by the influx of negroes discouraged by conditions on the farms, property owners asserted.

The Colored Man Bottled In

Atlanta Independent – 8-30-23

What our white neighbors were unable to accomplish by segregation laws, which our Supreme Court declared unconstitutional, they are about to accomplish by zoning regulations, and as a result of their efforts to limit the territory in which Atlanta Negroes may build homes, they have completely bottled the colored man up. He has no outlet within the city limits in which to increase his housing space, and as a result Negroes must live in the country or migrate north.

Zoning regulations, if humanely and legally administered, do not mean the exclusion of any class of people or lessening the population, but for convenience and increase of living space, in a way not to mix business and residential territory. Our neighbors claim to be very solicitous of our welfare and are making much noise about the migration of our people; yet they make little effore to move the causes of migration and relieve the colored man's mind of unrest and economic uncertainty.

Atlanta Independent, Atlanta, Ga.

Thousands of us want to remain in Atlanta and in the south, but we cannot unless we can have somewhere to live. There is not a road or street leading out of Atlanta in which Negroes may build within approximately five miles of the Court House. If you go south through South Atlanta, before you reach Lakewood Heights, the white people have settled and bottled the Negroes in, including Clark University and its territory. If you start toward East Point, the Negro has no opportunity to build and increase his space in Fulton county. On the West Hunter road, where the Negro did have an outlet, to satisfy a few selfish landlords, the zoning laws cut us off at Chickamauga Park, giving us no expansion in the only direction we had. It is not worth while to speak of an outlet at the end of Marietta street or Peachtree road, because there is nothing in either of these directions that a colored man can buy. If you start east to Decatur, you are completely bottled in by Druid Hills and Ansley Park, one of the most fashionable white residential communities in the city; and our space is very much limited in the city.

If the bond proposition carries—which it ought not, for a thousand sound and sane reasons—seventy-five acres of territory will be taken from the residential space that Negroes now occupy in the city. In this territory there are possibly ten thousand Negroes now living. Where is this great concourse of people to go, when they are denied this space if the bonds carry? Where are they to find housing territory? They must either go to the country, where they have no work to do, or migrate east, north and west, where they can find something to do, thereby lessening our manpower and entailing to our city a great economic loss on account of a labor shortage than can be prevented, if sound and reasonable methods are adopted.

It is a poor governmental system or community system, where there is no thought taken of the residential opportunities of a part of the people. There must be a certain amount of regard for living conditions of all the people in any community, if society is going to serve the purpose for which it was instituted. Race hatred ought not to have any place in the building of a community. We want a great city. In 1930 we want five hundred thousand. They are not all going to be white. In this increase there ought to be provisions made for a possible increase of seventy-five thousand Negro people. When our city shall have reached the half-million mark, there is going to be quite two hundred thousand Negroes here. The town is short-sighted and its policy suicidal when it addresses itself to the preparation for whites at the expense of facilities for the blacks. The program must be broad and humane enough to provide for humanity, without regard to race or color. The city of Atlanta will never be any larger than its policy of humanity is broad. And if the Negro had no other reason than his housing conditions to vote against the bonds, this one reason in itself would be sufficient. More bonds means more taxation We passed up nearly a million dollars a year and a half ago for water bonds, and what has been the result? We were paying 60 cents for water before we voted for bonds, and now we are paying $1.00. Water prices have been raised sky high on the people, in spite of the bond issue to relieve the situation. We must not be swept off our feet by fine talking about how white folks

proof of their lo ve for our parents is their conduct toward us. We want no more bonds.
(Signed)

BENJAMIN JEFFERSON DAVIS, Editor.

Lack of Economic Opportunities and Inadequate Housing Facilities

Atlanta Independent

There are two things fundamentally necessary in the life of every individual—first, he must have a house to live in, and, secondly, an opportunity to earn meat and bread. These two essentials, necessarily, have to do with the migration of the black man from the South to other sections of our country. In the communities where he lives, unless he is provided with a house in which to live commensurate with his intelligence, his needs and comforts, he is going to seek a house in a community that affords him these necessary essentials. Being provided with a house to live in, he must have work to do, in order to live; and if the opportunity at his door to work is shut in his face, he must seek that community where the opportunity is open for him, not only to make a living wage, but the wage level must be such as will afford him a living, and enough above the level to educate his children, provide him a home, and become a taxpayer, instead of a liability in the community.

Atlanta, Ga.
9-20-23

A representative of the Chicago Tribune was in our office a few days ago studying the migration question and asked whether the white man was trying to remedy the economic loss by reason of migration, by removing the causes that impel the Negro to migrate? We had to answer in the negative. We told him that the white man had been fully advised of the underlying causes by his own investigation and by conferences with the Negroes, but that he had been derelict in removing the causes—that substantially he had done nothing to increase the Negro's economic opportunity to make bread, or improve his housing conditions—that his educational facilities were just as meager and the old contract system which reduced free men to slaves, was still in operation under the old overseer idea. We informed him that the Negroes of Georgia had held a state-wide conference, issued an address to the legislature in particular and the white people in Georgia in general—that five thousand copies of this address, setting forth the causes of migration and the remedies therefor, but we did not know of a single instance in which any movement had been formulated among the whites to check migration—that instead of removing the causes, if the white man had done anything, he had increased them. And we cited, as an instance, that a certain bottling company in Atlanta which manufactures cold drinks was using Negro truck drivers and Negro held inside and outside of the plant, and that the management had been waited on and informed that they would have to displace the Negro help with white help—that white men would not permit Negroes to work as long as white men were walking about idle—that when all white men were at work, if there was anything left, Negroes might have it—that their society, and they claimed to be members of the Ku-Klux Klan, would not permit Negroes to drive motor trucks and do such work as white men might do, leaving white men in idleness.

Now, here is a bold attempt to put American citizens out of employment because of their color. Here is a plain cause of migration—Negro men working, rendering satisfactory services in a bottling plant, working in the peace of the state without interfering with anybody, and a self-constituted committee waits on the proprietor and demands that he discharge these citizens for no other reason than to give white men a job. Every other bottling works in the city, and we have quite a number of them, is working white men to the exclusion of Negro men, but no Negro committee has ever served notice on any bottling concern that it could not work white men because they were white. These white regulators purpose to deprive these black men of the opportunity to make bread at a business at which they are the largest consumers.

ZONING.

Atlanta is supposed to have a zoning law, the purpose of which is to regulate business, manufacturing and residential settlements. At any time a white man wants to put a factory, a garage, or nything else in a Negro settlement, the zoning committee readily changes the rule so the white man can build his garage, blockhouse or anything else he wants to in the most exclusive Negro residential section. If the white man wants to build a business house, factory or whatnot on a street line twenty feet in front of a Negro residence, it matters not how exclusive the section is, he is permitted to cut the street view from both sides of the Negro's residence.

All of this has a tendency to build up in the minds of the Negro the idea to move away to another community where his rights as a citizen and his comforts as a home owner will be respected.

If a Negro undertakes to [illegible] building a Negro settlement, [illegible] come up and object, and white men who own the land will be denied the privilege of selling it to whom they please, which is another way of confiscating property without due process of law.

These conditions obtain in our community by reason of undertaking to run a democracy without the people composing the democracy. These handicaps and discriminations are imposed upon the Negro by reason of political conditions; and yet, we hear every day that a majority of the white folk stand for law and order and for a square deal for the Negro. This is said in spite of the fact that the good white folk are fully advised of these conditions, and the good white folk, as good as they are, never raise their voice, either from the pulpit or pen against these indignities which are driving from the South thousands of its best citizens. Cheap politics are making conditions in this state intolerable, and the vicious principles controlling the white primaries are now entering into every business and vocation. There is no political party in the South—all white men without regard to party affiliation, are invited to take part in a white primary. All Negroes are excluded because of their color. And the growing tendency now is for all the work in the South to be done by white men, except on the farm. Street washing, carpentry, bricklaying, and, in fact, all skilled and unskilled labor within the cities are being grabbed by white people under the guise of white supremacy, and that no Negro shall have a job that a white man will do, as long as a white man is idle.

These are conditions that the white man knows of, and he is making no effort to remove them, and yet he complains that the Negro migrates. Unless conditions change, the Negro must live out of doors and perish in the South or migrate North, East, or West, where he can live in a house and have an opportunity to make bread

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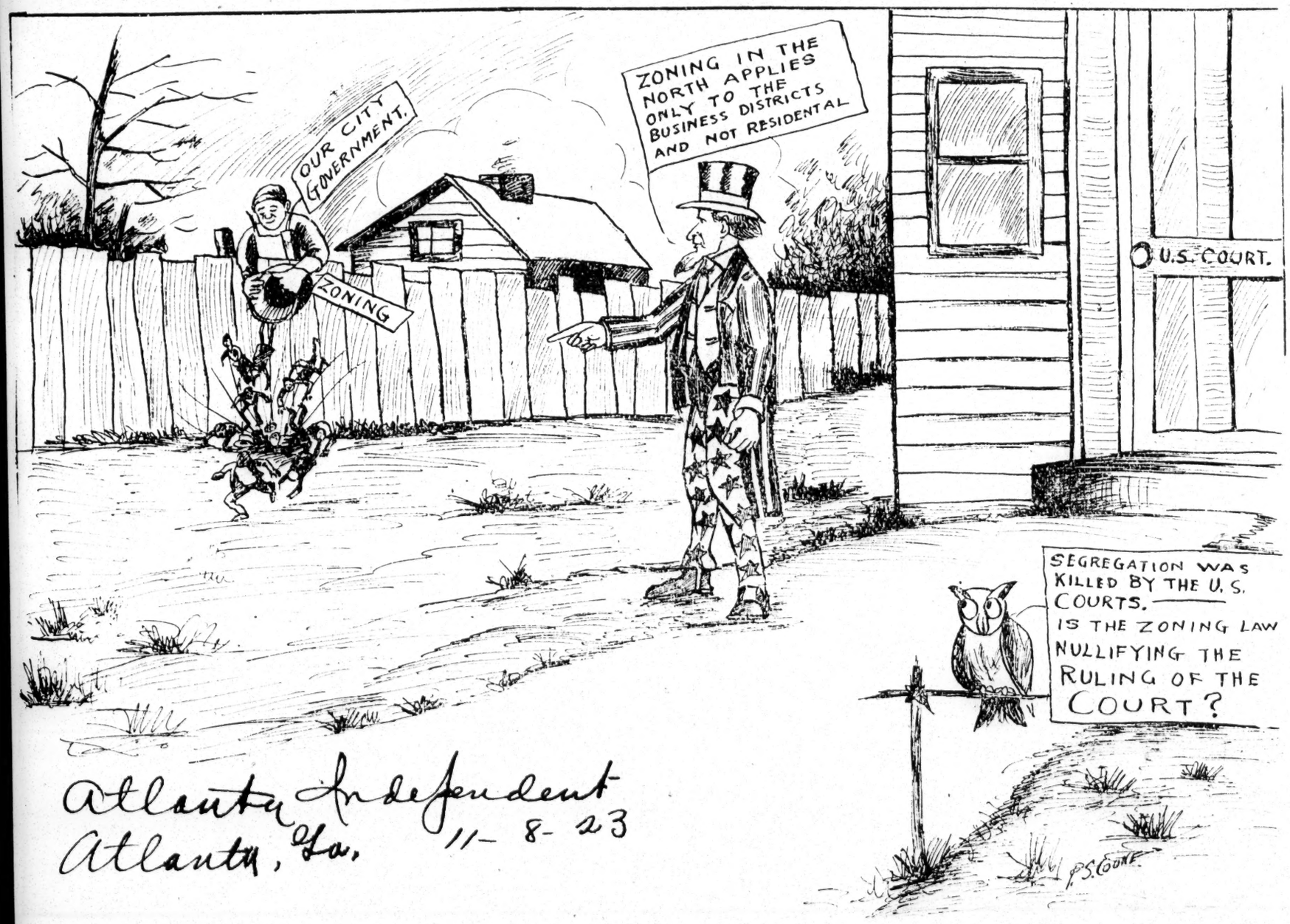
Segregation - 1923.

Georgia.

ATLANTA, GA., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1923.

OFFICIAL ORGAN GRAND UNITED ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS


OUR CITY GOVERNMENT.
ZONING
ZONING IN THE NORTH APPLIES ONLY TO THE BUSINESS DISTRICTS AND NOT RESIDENTAL
U.S. COURT.
SEGREGATION WAS KILLED BY THE U. S. COURTS.
IS THE ZONING LAW NULLIFYING THE RULING OF THE COURT?
P.S. COOKE

Atlanta Independent
Atlanta, Ga. 11-8-23

Segregation — 1923. Delaware.

Fined for Threat to Sell Land to Negroes

Despite threats made by William Davenport that he would dispose of his numerous realty holdings in Merchantville to Negroes if residents of the Camden suburb voted to buy a plot of ground owned by him against his wish, residents of the town by a vote to 133 to 53, approved a bond issue to purchase the land for a playground. Davenport, who attended the meeting, refused to comment on the result.

Under a will left by Davenport's father, the town of Merchantville was given the option of purchasing the site for $5300. Recently it developed that John Whitaker had offered Davenport $6900 for the land. On two former occasions the residents of the town turned down the offer to buy. When Whitaker, however, posted circulars to telegraph poles setting forth Davenport's threat, a special meeting was called and the issue was voted through.

The fight between Davenport and Whitaker on one side and townsfolk roused by the threats on the other, started when Whitaker was arrested and fined $35 after he had posted the threatening circulars contrary to a borough ordinance.

Segregation—1923. D.C.

Negroes Must Respect the Washington Exclusion Law.

Now and then we find a ray of hope that the people of the North and East are beginning to realize the importance of keeping the whites and blacks segregated.

In the District of Columbia there is perhaps as little attention paid to white and black skins as there is anywhere in the United States. While the negroes are not permitted to go to white schools, colleges, parks or other public places frequented by the white element, they are given equal privileges in other things. Recently in the city of Washington there has been several moves in the courts to prevent negroes from buying or renting property in the exclusive white sections, and for the first time the courts have decided that neighborhood contracts, by which residents of exclusive white neighborhoods have tried to protect themselves from negroes coming in, are good in law.

Thus it seems that at last the race equality agitation by our northern brothers is taking on a reverse attitude.

"As long as the lamp of hope holds out to burn the least informed man may see the folly of his way, and get right."

Kenilwarth Citizens Association Denounces Members For Selling to Colored

The segregation wave that is sweeping the District hit the Kenilworth section this week. The white residents of that section met under the guise of the Kenilworth Citizens Association last Tuesday night at the Kenilworth Presbyterian Church and voted that no person who was a member of the association would sell any property in that section to Colored people. According to reports of the meeting, more than fifty people attended and several speeches attacking the Negro race were made.

It appears that some valuable property in that section was recently sold to a Colored man. The person who sold the property was vehemently denounced for selling to a Negro. It was the sentiment of the meeting that Kenilworth should be maintained as a white settlement.

John Barber, who is listed in the city directory as a watchman, is president of the Association. The Kenilworth section is inhabited by a large number of colored as well as whites. It is the extreme northeast section of the District and many of the inhabitants run truck farms.

The attempt at segregation in the Kenilworth section came right on the heels of the attempt at segregation on the part of a group of white people in the 1700 block of S St., N.W. Mrs. Corrigan was enjoined from completing the sale of a house in this block to Mrs. Dr. Merrill Curtis. However, Dr. Emmett J. Scott and Hon. A. G. Froe, Recorder of Deeds, have both purchased and are now occupying their homes in this block.

In addition to these two, other colored people are living in that block and have been living there for some time.

It is understood that the Curtises will continue their legal fight. Attys. for Mrs. Corrigan, the white owner of the property will join Attorney Smith and Cobb in the court battle to get a change in the recent ruling of Chief Justice McCoy.

WHITES BREAK WINDOWS IN DEAN'S HOME

To purchase a home, move his furniture in on Monday afternoon and not sleep there that night; but, on returning Tuesday morning to find eleven windows broken out during the night, was the experience of Dean D. W. Woodard, of Howard University, this week.

Last April Dean Woodard purchased the fine brick house at 127 W Street, northwest with the view of making it his home. Monday he sent some of his furniture over to the new home and intended to finish moving Tuesday, remaining in his home on Howard Place Monday night. During Monday night, it is alleged that three white men stoned the house, breaking out eleven windows.

Captain Oyster was informed of the outrage and he gave instructions to number eight precinct for full police protection for Dean Woodard and his property. Since then the Dean states protection, and that Capt. Russel Dean that he has been given the fullest in charge of the Eighth precinct has given his personal attention to the policing of that section.

Dean Woodard stated that he was not intimidated at all by this event and that he feels that no man has any right to dictate to him as to where he shall live. He expects to remain there and the house is not for sale at any price.

The crackers in that section have stoned other homes when they were informed of colored families moving in. Prof. Dodson is reported to have had the same experience.

Mob Attempt To Drive D. C. Home Owners From Their Homes

Washington, D. C., Nov. 11.—Approximately three hundred and fifty white men, women and children on last Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock assembled at First and U Streets, Northwest, and marched to the homes of Negro property owners with an "ultimatum" that they vacate their homes. The police reserves of the eighth precinct, led by Capt. C. Plemmons, were called to disperse the crowd, which scattered without protest.

The action of the men and women of the Bloomingdale section followed the adoption by the Nrth Washington Citizens Association of a resolution at a special meeting Monday night in the United Brethren Church, North Capitol and R streets, Northwest, calling for a demonstration.

Henry Gilligan, chairman of the housing committee of the North Washington Citizens Association, was selected as spokesman. Those in charge of the demonstration included Robert M. Yost, president of the citizens association; Guy Numbers, secretary and Phillip Grumbrecht, treasurer of the association.

Varned Against Violence

Mr. Gilligan outlined the purpose of the meeting. He admonished the crowd to be "level-headed," not to threaten and under no circumstances to resort to violence. While the crowd was assembling more than 200 automobiles gathered.

The crowd first went to the home of William F. Clark, 143 U street, Northwest, at the corner of Flager place. Mr. Gilligan and his committee mounted the steps and in response to their ring for admission the door was answered by a woman.

Before the spokseman could hand her the printed ultimatum a news photographer, taking a flashlight picture, threw a scare into the crowd when the powder exploded. The door of the Clark home was quickly closed.

The crowd then went to the home of Dr. D. W. Woodward, a Howard University professor, at Flakler place and W street. Dr. Woodward answered the door and was handed the "ultimatum." Mr. Gilligan requested it be read then. The crowd had surged up and surrounded the house.

Dr. Woodward read the "ultimatum," but made no comment. An occupant of the home drove up in an automobile and was halted and questioned by the crowd.

Hymn Sung By Marchers

Then the crowd, singing, "Onward, Christian Soldiers," marched to the home of Lawrence Prince, a Pullman porter, living just around the corner on Flagler place.

After the door bell was rung without a response being received, someone noticed a light in the house and several climbed to the front windows and rattled the glass.

Prince finally came to the door. He too, was served with the "ultimatum."

It was while the crowd was staging the dmeonstration in front of the Pince home that a riot call was sent in to the Eighth precinct. The arrival of th eauto patrol filled with policemen was met with cheers and handclapping, especially by the wo

men and girls in the crowd.

Capt. Plemmons sought out the leaders of the movement and told them that the crowd must disperse Chairman Gilligan told him the purposes of the demonstration, but Capt Plemmons ordered his men to clear the streets and told the men and women to return to their homes.

It was learned last night that the demonstrations were the aftermath of the purchase of a home by Dr. Woodward two months ago and the buying of a home by William Clark a week later. Prince moved into his house yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock .

Following the purchase of the house by Dr. Woodward, residents of the neighborhood called on him and requested him to move. Policemen of the Eighth precinct were detailed to the house to prevent trouble.

The "ultimatum" presented last night read:

"These men and women here are property owners of Bloomingdale and they want you to know they resent to the limit your purchase of the property in this section, and particularly your moving into the property. You may not have known that you were buying property in a white neighborhood, but, whether you knew this or not, you did buy and we want you to know that we expect you to vacate these premises."

FACTS IN CURTIS CASE SEEM TO BE MISUNDERSTOOD

Much misunderstanding prevails in the minds of the public as to the parties in the case now before the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia relative to the purchase of a house in the 1700 block of S Street Northwest, by Dr. Curtis.

The case is popularly known as the Curtis case but in truth the Curtises are not connected with it at all, they having withdrawn immediately after Justice McCoy rendered his decision on the injunction asked for.

The premises in question are owned by a white woman named Corrigan who desired to sell to colored. Her next door neighbor by the name of Buckley, also white, objected to the sale because of a covenant signed by property owners in that block and thereupon brought proceedings in the Supreme Court on the ground that the Corrigans were parties to the covenant. The individualities of white or colored have no important significance in the case at all. It is simply a question of restricting the right of residence of the Negro race purely on the ground of race and color. The case in court is where one white person is bringing action to prevent another from selling her property to any one she desires.

RIGHT TO LIVE ANYWHERE HERE BEING TESTED

Efforts of Whites to Revoke Deed to Dr. Scott's Home Affects Whole Race

The case of Louis J. Fosse vs. Stephen and Dr. Emmett J. Scott, in which the plaintiff is seeking in equity to have the deed to premises, 1711 S Street, Northwest, which is owned and occupied now by Dr. Scott, set aside, was tried before Justice Stafford in the District Court this week. Besides trying to have Dr. Scott's deed revoked and oust him from the premises the plaintiff also seeks damages.

While the case closed Thursday, Justice Stafford will not hand down his decision until after both sides have submitted briefs. Atty. Jas. S. Easby-Smith (white) represents Fosse, while Atty. Jas. A. Cobb, represents Dr. Scott. Stephen Cochran was the owner of 1711 before Dr. Scott purchased it.

The decision in this case will go a long ways toward determining whether American citizens who are members of the Negro race can live where they choose in the capital of the Nation.

The case grew out of the fact that a so-called covenant was signed by a number of whites living in the 1700 block of S Street, Northwest, in which they agreed not to sell their property to Negroes for a period of 21 years. It is alleged that Mr. Cochran was a party of this covenant; however, when Mr. Cochran decided to move from the block, he sold his home to Dr. Emmett J. Scott. Louis J. Fosse, who now lives next door to Dr. Scott and who admitted in court he is a party to the covenant is seeking to have Dr. Scott ousted.

This is the second case affecting the transfering of property in this block to Negroes. Dr. A. W. Curtis now has a case pending before the Court of Appeals. However, there is a vast difference between the Curtis case and Dr. Scotts' case. In the Curtis case, an injunction was obtained enjoining the owners from selling to Dr. Curtis; but in the Scott case, the sale was consumated, the deeds and all other papers recorded and possession taken. Since Dr. Scott moved in last April 11th, a number of other prominent citizens have purchased in the block, including Atty. A. W. Gray, Atty. W. L. Houston and others.

A decision from Justice Stafford is expected as soon as he has had time to study the briefs.

WHITE WOMAN AND RACE MAN SUED FOR DAMAGES

Washington, D. C., Nov. 24.—The effort of cracker property owners in the northwest section of this city to prevent Race persons from purchasing property in various parts resulted in a damage suit for $2,000 being filed last week in the District Supreme Court against William W. Todd and Ellen M. Robicheau (white), former owner of premises 770 Columbia Rd., N. E. The complaint states that Mrs. Robicheau woman had broken an agreement among other white property owners in that block. There is, according to the plaintiffs, an agreement among the owners of the said properties not to sell to anyone of Color except upon the condition that persons making such sales shall indemnify the remaining property holders with an equal distribution, a $2,000 forfeit. They asked that a lien be placed against the house and that it be sold unless it is paid.

BLOOMINGDALE QUIET; ALL PROPERTY OWNERS DETERMINED TO STAY: CITIZENS MAKE PROTEST

Bloomingdale apparently has quited down after its little spasm of excitement. This section recently came into prominence when a group of its white citizens made a bold, but futile, attempt to intimidate colored residents living there.

The three places visited by the mob that characterized itsself as a group of white christians, were William L. Clark, 143 U Street, Professor W. W. Woodard, 127 W Street, and Lawrence Prince, on Flagler Place. Not any of these places have been molested in the least since the mob of last week.

It was learned this week that not any of the Negro property owners in this section intend to sell or move out.

A meeting of the prominent citizens of the District was held last Saturday night at the home of Prof. Kelly Miller on Fourth Street at which time the insult of Bloomingdale was discussed as well as the trouble experienced by Negroes in other sections, namely, Gerard Street and S Street.

It was decided at this meeting to have a conference with the ministers of the city at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church on Wednesday night, November 14th. At this meeting which was largely attended, it was decided to vigorously fight any attempt to force resident segregation under any guise in any section of the District of Columbia.

A committee was appointed to urge the entire clergy of Washington to do all they can to educate their congregations to know their rights under the law in the matter of buying homes and protecting them.

That the Negroes are solidly united in the matter of protecting the rights of the race, was attested by the many letters offering assistance in any form to the people who were molested by the mob last week.

One colored real estate firm reported this week that a Bloomingdale property owner had eight houses he was desiring to sell to colored people. A big white real estate firm on New York Avenue, also reported that they had property for sale to colored people in this section. So instead of the Bloomingdale trouble preventing the sale of more property it has accelerated it.

It was further learned this week by a Tribune representative that the white Episcopal church located at Second and U Streets, will within a few months he turned over to a colored congregation by the Bishop of Washington. With this change in view, and the fact that more property is offered for sale than before, no further trouble is expected in this section.

So far the U. S. District Attorney's office has not let it become known just what will be done in the matter of bringing the leaders of the mob before the courts here. There is a wide spread demand among all groups that the leaders of this mob be made to pay the penalty for their acts.

Segregation—1923. D.C.

LEADERS OF MOB MAY GO TO JAIL: GOVERNMENT TO INVESTIGATE WHOLE AFFAIR

Under the guise of Christian and law abiding citizens, a mob of white hoodlums estimated at about 500, made a bold but vain attempt last Tuesday night, November 6th, to intimidate three Negro property holders in what is called the Bloomingdale section.

The mob was the out-growth of a meeting of the North Washington Citizens Association held on Monday night, November 5th in the United Brethren Church at the corner of Rhode Island Avenue and R Street, Northwest. At this meeting, a resolution was passed calling for a demonstration in order to intimidate the colored people and possibly force them to move from the neighborhood. Speeches were made denouncing the buying of property in this section by Negroes.

Plans for the carrying out of the provisions of the resolution were worked out after the meeting Monday night and were completed on Tuesday in one of the Government Departments where several of the mob leaders work.

Afer the plans were completed, the leaders sent scouts from door to door to notify the people as to the time and meeting place; many were notified by telephone.

About six o'clock Tuesday evening, the vanguard of the mob began to gather at First and U Streets, Northwest. Little boys and girls, Sunday School teachers, church deacons, missionary club workers, all came out to show the world just how Christianity works in America.

Mob Easily Frightened

With all in readiness, even to a newspaper reporter, the mob marched to 143 U Street, where William L. Clark lives. The Clarks just moved into their home last week. Mrs. Clark with her two months' old baby in arms, answered the door. While the leader, a vicious looking white ruffian ,was trying to remember his speech, a newspaper photographer set off a fuse for a flash light picture. The discharge of the powder came very near breaking up the party. When the leaders caught their breath and re-assembled their frightened followers, the Clark home was closed to them.

From the Clark home, the mob marched up Flagler Place to the corner of W Street to the residence of Professor W. W. Woodard, who lives at 127 W Street. When the bell rang, Professor Woodard, who was entertaining some friends, thinking it was the arrival of other guests, opened the door. He was confronted with this howling mob.

The leader told Professor Woodard that they were law abiding citizens and would not harm him but that they simply wanted to talk with him. After making the speech that had been previously abruptly halted at the Clark home, the leader asked Professor Woodard if he had anything to say.

Mob Nonplussed

When emphatically informed he had nothing at all to say, the mob stood for a while apparently lost as to what to do next; but after some conferring they moved toward the home of Lawrence Prince, next to the Woodard home but fronting on Flagler Place.

The same program as had been followed by the mob at the Woodard home, was carried out at the Prince home.

While the mob was at the Prince home, the reserves from the Eighth Precinct under the leadership of Captain Plemmons, arrived and immediately drove the mob off the streets, but did not make any arrests, although the leaders tried to explain to the officers what they were trying to do.

On Wednesday evening about seven o'clock, three white boys stoned the Clark home at 143 U Street. Two missles were thrown. One went through the lower window in the dining room on the Flagler Street side, and the other went through the same window, but the upper pane. The missles barely missed breaking expensive mirrors in the dining room.

Since the trouble, the police department has placed policemen in this section to protect these property holders.

Trouble first started in this section last August just before Professor Woodard moved in his home. At this time every window in the house was broken out. A short time after the Professor had moved in, the house was stoned again.

Police protection was asked for and for nearly two months, special patrolmen did duty in this section. The trouble last Tuesday was the third and most serious so far.

The Mob's Ultimatum

The following is a copy of the ultimatum left by the mob Tuesday night:

These men and women here are property owners of Bloomingdale, and they want you to know they resent to the limit your purchase of the property in this section, and particularly your moving into the property. You may not have known that you were buying property in a white neighborhood, but. whether you knew this or not, you did buy, and we want you to know that we expect you to vacate these premises. We will help you find a purchaser for the property and will cooperate with you in any and every way possible if you will indicate to us that you will do the wise and courageous thing—move out. We know the leaders of your own race agree with this proposition.

While the police department has patrolled this section after trouble has occurred, to date the department has not made a single arrest notwithstanding hundreds of dollars worth of property has been destroyed. A large number of the Tuesday night mob members are known. Just why the department has not made an arrest under the circumstances has been a puzzle to the entire Negro population in Washington.

It was learned by The Tribune that an investigation of the whole affair was started Thursday by one of the Government departments and that the arrest and possible conviction of some of the leaders may result.

The trouble in this section is being fostered by a white lawyer said to be Henry Gilligan who has offices in the Otis Building and lives at 2304 First Street, northwest. Others assisting him are Robert M. Yost of 26 Girard Street, Northeast, a clerk in the Post Office Department; Guy Numbers, of 43 V Street, Northwest, a clerk in the Department of the Interior; and Phillip Grumbrecht of 2211 First Street, Northwest, a map maker in the Department of the Interior. All of these men are prominent officials of the North Washington Citizens Association.

It is this association which is now wearing the disguise of a "Christian mob" and which shows that the movement to force these people to move is a very well organized one. Sentiment has been worked up through the churches in this section.

While it would appear on its face that the mob represented the sentiment of this section, this is not altogether true, as the following incident will indicate. About three weeks ago, a colored purchaser approached the owner of a palatial home in this section and asked him if he desired to sell. The white owner informed him in the negative, and further stated that since colored people were moving in that section and since they made better neighbors than the whites, that he would not sell now at any price. Other examples of the desirability of Negro property holders in this section have been encountered by The Tribune.

The Colored property owners in this section all state that they do not intend to move. They seem to be determined to remain and hold their property even if it means bloodshed in doing so.

THE SINGING MOB

A mob of five hundred crackers, led by a peanut lawyer and three cheap government clerks visited three homes of colored people on U, W, and Flagler Streets in the Bloomingdale Section east of LeDroit Park, Tuesday night to issue to them an ultimatum regarding their moving from the homes they have purchased.

After going to Mr. Clark's home on U Street, the mob on the march to the home of Dr. Woodard on W Street, sang "Onward Christian Soldiers," as if they were foolish enough to think that the colored people would think they were performing a Christian duty. It was bad enough to issue an ultimatum to bona fide home owners, demanding their removal from homes they had selected in which to live peacefully; but, to give zest to the occasion by singing a supposed Christian song, gives impetus to the colored people's increasing unbelief in the white man's professed Christianity. Washington Tribune

It is beyond us to realize that a supposed Christian church would open its doors to such an organization as that which met there on the night before and passed a resolution demanding the eviction of the three colored home owners because they had committed the terrible crime of purchasing a home on a street where a few cracker whites lived. 10-1-23

The family is the first unit of government. The home is the seat of that government. The Constitution guarantees to every man the right of home ownership. Is the Capital of this great nation to be the leader in making of the Constitution a scrap of paper as regards home ownership? Is the Christian Church in this highly civilized nation to be a meeting place of howling mobs to break up the sanctity of the home? Are Christians (?) resorting to Christian songs for inspiration to drive peaceful citizens from their own homes? 11-10-23

The fact is that race prejudice has so completely absorbed the once Christian Church in America that its members and their pastors are catering to it today. There is no resistance whatever in the church against hatred, malice nor race prejudice. On the contrary it is fashionable and profitable to encourage these sins, and the Christian Church among white people, follows the line of least resistance and has ceased to be the leading factor in moral conduct and spiritual persuasion.

Washington had a fierce race riot in 1919. Such incidents as that on Tuesday night will add fuel to the already smoldering fire of race antipathy which exists here and is constantly being fostered by "our supposed white friends."

The windows in Dr. Woodard's home have been broken out twice; and some one threw a stone thru Mr. Clark's window Wednesday night. There is a limit even to patience.

While the police department has given protection, *after* outrages have been committed the colored citizens are asking why is it that no arrests have been made. Three distinct acts of violence are on record when property was destroyed and lives endangered. If the perpetrators had been Negroes, and the property owner white, some one would have been arrested long before now. The colored citizens are demanding the arrest of these stone throwers.

Segregation—1923 D.C.

S AGREEMENT NOT TO SELL PROPERTY TO NEGROES VALID?

Wife of D. C. Physician Fights Whites Who Would Bar Her From Neighborhood

Baltimore Md.
1-12-23
Afro American

Washington, Jan. 10.—Claiming that an agreement between white owners of real estate not to sell their property to colored persons is a violation of the Constitution, Mrs. Helen Curtis asked the District Supreme Court to dismiss a suit for injunction recently filed against her and Irene H. Corrigan, white, to prevent the purchase by her of the house 1727 S street, northwest. Chief Justice McCoy heard arguments on the motion.

John J. Buckley, white, owner of 1719 S street, northwest, brought suit against Mrs. Corrigan, owner of 1727, to prevent the sale of the latter property to Helen Curtis. Mrs. Curtis is the wife of young Dr. Arthur Curtis, one of the best families of the city.

Buckley, through Attorneys James S. Easby-Smith and Davis Pine, claimed that June 1, 1921, the owners of properties on both sides of S street, northwest, from 17th street to New Hampshire avenue, entered into a recorded agreement not to sell or lease their holdings for a term of twenty years to any persons of the colored race. Mrs. Corrigan is alleged to have disregarded the agreement and to have sold to the defendant, Curtis.

Attorneys Emory B. Smith and James A. Cobb cited the fifth, thirteenth and fourteenth amendments to the Constitution and their arguments in favor of the motion to dismiss, and declared all three are violated by the agreement on which the plaintiff relies.

COURT UPHOLDS RESIDENTIAL SEGREGATION

Mrs. Curtis Loses First Court Test; Will File Appeal; Dr. Scott Dodges Injunction

Chicago Defender
4-21-23

Washington, D. C., April 20.—In a decision rendered last week in the District of Columbia supreme court, a decision which many here hold is a modern parallel in spirit to the infamous Dred Scott decision by Taney, Chief Justice McCoy overruled the motion to dismiss the suit for injunction brought by John J. Buckley (white) against Mrs. Irene Corrigan (white) and Mrs. Helen Curtis.

Mrs. Curtis

Buckley owned property in the 1700 block of S St. N. W., and Mrs. Corrigan owned another house in the same block, which she sold to Mrs. Helen Curtis in violation of an agreement among the white property owners not to sell to Race buyers.

Chief Justice McCoy based his action on what is said to be the weight of precedent, a precedent largely incident upon the segregated or "Jim Crow" system that permeates every ramification of life at the nation's capital. Mere restriction was held not in violation of the constitutional rights of Race members.

It was maintained by the court that such a restrictive agreement as was in question was strictly in accord with the public policy, advancing as proof that the statute providing for separate schools for white and Race children in the district has been sustained by the court of appeals, and the municipal authorities under the direction of Congress have provided separate bathing beaches, tennis courts, golf courses and playgrounds.

Emmett Scott Moves in

As an interlude, and an amusing one at that, came almost synchronous with the decision under discussion, the quickly consummated sale of a residence in the same block to Dr. Emmett J. Scott and his success in getting moved in.

It appears that the brothers of brighter hue in this famous block planned a "coup d'etat" in the form of an injunction to prevent Dr. Scott from taking possession, but on the night before, after the dark shadows had settled it is reported that the doctor and his private secretary, Norman L. McGhee, moved in through the back way enough furniture to meet both technical and legal requirements and sleeping necessities, and forthwith "dug in" for the night. So a perfectly good injunction was wasted.

The Defender representative is reliably informed that Mrs. Helen Curtis, through her attorney, James A. Cobb, intends to file an appeal.

However, Emmett Scott Moves In Despite Curtis Case Decision

The Court of Appeals Will Be Asked to Pass on McCoy's Ruling

Chief Justice McCoy of the District Supreme Court on Thursday of this week upheld an agreement made by a number of persons owning property in the seventeen hundred block of S Street in which agreement these owners had agreed not to sell their property to any person of color.

The decision was the result of an injunction brought by one of the owners, John J. Buckley, against another owner and party to the agreement, Irene H. Corrigan, to prevent Irene Corrigan from selling her property to Mrs. Helen Curtis, wife of Dr. Arthur Curtis, one of our physicians.

Washington Tribune
4-14-23

Mrs. Curtis was made a party defendant to this suit by reason of being the intending purchaser; but just why she alone defended the suit it has not been learned. The defendant, Mrs. Curtis has been allowed ten days in which to answer this suit and to answer the contention of the party attempting to prevent the sale, the case not having been decided on its merits, but on a demurrur filed by the defendant's lawyer.

It has been stated by James A. Cobb, attorney for Mrs. Curtis that the case will be fought thru all the courts of the land unless the next decision of the court, after he has been heard on the merits of the case, is favorable to Mrs. Curtis.

Mr. Scott Buys in the Block

Mr. Emmett J. Scott, secretary-treasurer of Howard University recently purchased a house in this block at 1711 S Street, and it is learned that, upon being advised that a similar action to enjoin him from purchasing and to enjoin the seller from making the sale to him was to be attempted, made a quick deal by purchasing and moving into the premises on Thursday of this week before any legal action could be had against him or the seller.

It will be interesting now to see just what steps the parties to this discriminating agreement will take to oust Scott or how they will proceed against the owner who sold to him.

Both Mrs. Curtis and Dr. Scott should be commended for their stand in the matter of protecting their rights as both are American citizens and tax payers in this city.

These cases should be and are of vital interest to our group, and are being watched with a deal of interest. We hold that we are entitled to live anywhere in the United States that we feel disposed to purchase property. These cases are the outgrowth of a seeming determination on the part of a race hating group of poor white people to keep our people from enjoying life and liberty in this city the capital of the nation.

BIG BROTHER DELEGATES DID NOT STAND FOR JIM CROWING

Chicago Defender
5-5-23
Washington, D.C.

Those "big brothers" and "big sisters" who were to attend the conference of these associations held at Washington, D. C., May 15-17, got a mild shock last week when word was sent them by R. C. Sheldon, executive secretary of the movement, that the management of the Hotel Roosevelt in Washington had informed him that no delegates of our group would be permitted to stop at that hotel.

Further, the management said that no persons of our group would even be permitted to enter the lobby of the hotel that bears the name of one of the fairest and greatest of real Americans that ever lived.

While most of the delegates had planned to stop at places other than the hotel designated as the official place it would have been a distinct handicap to be barred from entering the hotel as well as a gross insult. Because of this, many of our delegates refused to make the trip. The Big Brother and Big Sister movement had gained considerable popularity among our people in the East. James H. Hubert, A. J. Allison and Miss Amelia Wilcher, all of the New York Urban League, attended the conference.

Segregation—1923.

California Realtors Want To Segregate Negro Homes

Effort in Santa Monica By Passing Zoning Law to Restrict Building By Race Men on Beach Front—But Home and Property Buying Goes Steadily On.

(By F. DOUGLAS SARTOR)

Venice, Calif.—There is a concerted effort on the part of several realtor dealers in the Bay District to prevent the purchase of choice property sites by colored people which is nothing other than an attempt to segregate colored property owners. Already color restriction clauses are inserted in nearly every deed and title that is drawn up through and by these realtors.

Flattering offers and overtures are made from time to time by various agents, to colored people, who are fortunate enough to be owners of suitable home sites, and there are several possessing such holdings.

Not so long ago a company comprised of several representative business men of Los Angeles, purchased a beach frontage at Pico street and Ocean Front, in Santa Monica, California, for the purpose of erecting a bath house and salt water plunge for the accommodation and convenience of colored people. Shortly after the intentions and plans of the company were made known, the city of Santa Monica, through its law-making body, passed a zoning ordinance, which prohibited any further erection of bath houses along the ocean front.

Avent all of this contention and distraction, the colored people are buying property and acquiring homes as never before; the majority even now own their own homes.

Quite recently one of Venice's most progressive young colored men, Irwin Tabor, closed a deal for a beach frontage tract at Playa Del Rey, which is one mile from the famous Kenny Million Dollar Pier, one of the biggest amusement centers in the West.

Amusement Enterprise

Here at Del Rey, Mr. Taylor has tentaive plans under way for the construction of an amusement center expressly for colored people. One feature of this enterprise will be a large bath house, with a salt water plunge in connection. A spacious dance pavilion will likewise be a feature, along with a modernly equipped hotel. The writer is associated with Mr. Tabor in this undertaking, in an advisory capacity. Mr. Tabor has extensive property holdings in the Bay District. Playa Del Rey is in easy reach of Los Angeles, only forty-five minutes ride by auto or electric car.

Down at the Venice Boat House, we meet the versatile A. L. Reese, a pioneer of Venice and one of its most influential citizens. For years Mr. Reese has been in charge of all decorations for the Kenny Amusement Corporation. He is prominently identified with the civic and political affairs of Venice, having been chosen many times as judge of elections. He is sole owner of the motor-boating and canoe concession, by which means one is enabled to see Venice by way of its many canals.

Over on Broadway, and by the way, Venice has a Broadway, like other towns have "Main Street," is Mrs. J. W. Bridges, the popular proprietress of the Hotel Tremont, which is conducted as a race enterprise. Mr. and Mrs. Bridges are very well to do, and have oil interests in Texas of large valuation.

The new Masonic temple at 18th and Utah, has just been completed, and is a credit to the thrift and industry of its members and friends. This effort is unique in many respects. There are only two other lodges in the entire jurisdiction of California of Free and Accepted Masons that own their temple. J. B. Fant, the well known contractor and builder was in charge of construction.

The Ku Klux Klan

Out here where the great West begins, begins also, that sinister monster, the Ku Klux Klan. During the gubernatorial election in the state, the Klan was a paramount issue. The Democratic nominee, Thomas L. Woolwine, charged that the Republican candidate, Friend Richmond, was endorsed by the Klan. This charge was neither denied or affirmed by Mr. Richardson. Mr. Woolwine took a pronounced stand against the Klan, denouncing them in most bitter terms throughout the state. It is claimed that Mr. Woolwine polled a large colored vote on that account. It is a common thing to find Klan literature distributed along the streets of the various cities.

Japs Win Victory

The California State Senate recently defeated a bill which would have prohibited the Japanese from fishing in the coastal waters of California. There probably would not be a Japanese question, on the coast today, had the Japanese not shown their astuteness in industry and their genius for organization. The question is more economical than racial.

California.

Miss Bessie Coleman, the colored avaitrix, is rapidly recovering from serious injuries sustained during an exhibit flight, which occurred several weeks ago in Santa Monica. Miss Coleman is the only licensed colored avaitrix in the world it is claimed.

Change Zone Law to Head Off Building

Berkeley, Cal., June 22.—A zoning ordinance has recently been called in as a means of forestalling the erection of a building by the Race, near a desirable section of this city. There are already in this section a number of Race residents and they intended to erect a Masonic temple at Jefferson and University Aves. Five hundred of the white residents then got together and petitioned the city council to reclassify the district so as to bar this particular building. At the request of the council contractors who were engaged in excavating the foundation of the building ceased work until next Tuesday, when action will be taken on the petition of the property owners to be reclassified to a district of class 1.

It remains to be seen whether the reclassification would prevent the completion of the building, since it was started before the district was rezoned.

California white papers speculating on the outcome of the matter suggest that it may be necessary for the residents of the district to purchase the land owned by the Race people in order to prevent them from going ahead with their plans. If so, it is thought that the white people will have to pay, and pay dearly.

GUN PLAY IN ATTEMPT AT SEGREGATION

White Man At Beach Resort In California Arrested For Trying To Intimidate Colored Property Owners.

Pacific Coast News Bureau.

OCEAN BEACH, Calif., May 15—Attempting to enforce the "color line segregation clause" as incorporated within all real estate sales contracts on the Pacific coast, in which only members of the Caucasian race are permitted to buy, build or live within certain real estate subdivisions; a few white citizens of Ocean Beach, a popular beach resort near San Diego, resorted to gun play and the destruction by fire of one of the homes of the Colored people of this city.

Attempt at Segregation

The gun play and fire were the culmination of a series of threats, resolutions and the determination of a faction in Ocean Beach to draw the color line rigidly. Altho there are but three colored residents in the city, the local Chamber of Commerce was recently asked to pass a resolution making it the sense of the community that Ocean Beach welcomed only residents of the Caucasion race.

White Realtor Arrested

Upon the complaint of Wm. L. Knighten, Colored proprietor of a shoe shining parlor, and King Clemons, Colored, janitor at the Ocean Beach dance hall, Robert J. Walsh, 44, prominent white real estate man and Dan O'Connell, 29, were arrested by Police Chief James Patrick charged with assault with deadly weapons and destruction of the cottage at 1917 Bacon Street, occupied by Clemons and owned by Martha J. Plummer.

Press Scatters Riot Propaganda

Desirous of an opportunity to scatter through the white press of the north, east and south, news of a race riot in California, a number of the leading dailies headed by the Los Angeles Times grasped this opportunity to blazen forth in box car black faced type headings, their cherished race riot propaganda. The out of town mail edition of the Los Angeles Times sold on the streets at mid-night, carried the following 8-column front page heading, **"Race Riot in San Diego Suburbs,"** giving same precedence over such news as "Bandits Storm Pekin Walls." The morning edition of the same paper as well as other papers had little or nothing at all concerning the incident.

BERKELEY DAILY GAZETTE
JUNE 14, 1923

MORE RACE PROBLEMS.

Invasion of two residential sections by races whose presence is objectionable to white residents, is engaging the attention of the Berkeley Realty Board. At University and Jefferson street there is now under erection a Negro Masonic temple, and all efforts to prevent its construction have met with defeat. Oriental invasion of the residential district in the vicinity of Francisco, Milvia and Grove streets, has caused a storm of protest from the white residents of that vicinity and the matter has been referred to the Realty Board, which has appointed a special committee to investigate and to determine who is responsible for the sale of residential property in that vicinity to Orientals.

This is not the first time Berkeley has had a problem of this character to solve and, unless more successful efforts are made to combat Oriental and colored invasion in these cases residents of the districts now complaining will find their protests of little avail.

For a while it was feared that a Japanese colony was developing on Shattuck avenue at Channing way and, although a great hubbub was raised, the Orientals remained; more came and some are still there, but the "colony" never materialized.

When Negroes began settling along California street between Dwight way and Ashby a number of years ago, efforts were made to keep others from taking up their residence in that vicinity, but the Negroes continued to settle there, despite all attempts to keep them out. Now, it would seem they want to get closer in and have decided to begin on University avenue a block above California street. So far, the white residents of the vicinity have been unsuccessful in preventing the erection of the Negro Masonic Temple.

It would not be fair to lay entire blame for Oriental and Negro invasion on the realty dealers. Races whose presence in residential and business districts is objectionable to the whites, are aware of this feeling against them and are forced to resort to cunning to gain admission, and they can always find someone who is willing to aid them—for compensation.

In considering this problem we must remember that America is a free country and that we cannot and should not refuse admission to any and all races. On the other hand we must face the age-old racial prejudices which no amount of education or religious training can overcome. The Negroes and Orientals are aware of this and should govern themselves accordingly. They should settle in territories where they encounter the least opposition and should be satisfied to remain there and not attempt to encroach upon districts where they will not be welcome and where they will only increase objection to their presence in this country.

At the same time the white race must approach the problem dispassionately. They must be fair in their dealings with the colored and Oriental peoples and, while they feel they have justice on their side, they must be just in their treatment of those races to which they object as neighbors. There is a solution of the problems now faced by several local districts; the question is to find it and to settle the question amicably, and with fairness to all.

Segregation—1923.

Alabama.

NEGROES MAKE APPEAL TO CITY COMMISSION FOR RELIEF AGAINST SEGREGATION LAW IN ZONING ACT

BILL BELIEVED TO BE PLANNED TO WORK HARDSHIP ON NEGRO PEOPLE AS THEY ALONE CAN POSSIBLY SUFFER—MINISTERS' CONFERENCES PUT STRONG ENDORSEMENT BEHIND MOVEMENT.

1/20/23

Birmingham Reporter

The Zoning Act before the Alabama Legislature, and largely fostered by the Birimngham delegation, and believed to have the sanction of the City Commission of Birmingham, is being vigorously opposed by a delegation of Negro people, most of whom are citizens, tax-payers and substantial leaders of the Birmingham district. An appeal has been placed with the City Board of Commissioners and several conferences were held with the President of the Board and one conference with the City Attorney.

The Commission was addressed Thursday morning and the appeal there was emphasized by the Chairman of the delegation and the Secretary of the Committee. The appeal sets out many important points of disadvantage that Negro sections are already put to without any law compelling the same. Purely Negro sections, it is discussed in the appeal, are without the necessary sanitary arrangements, street imrovements, lights, police protection and the necessary comforts given other peoples within the municipality. It is made plain, also, that the Negroes are not seeking, or desire to be with white people, they would prefer to live to themselves, but at the same time they don't want to be segregated under law in sections or places where protection is not given. The section in the Zoning Act is very adroitly drawn and without a careful reading one would miss the intent of the section and perhaps consider it favorable and worth while, but, remembering the segregation or "jim crow" law on railroads where the companies are supposed to give equal protection and accommodation, and, knowing as every Negro knows, what kind of protection and accommodation is given, one can easily see the mischievousness and destructiveness of this section. Here is the way it reads:

"For the promotion of public peace, order, safety and general welfare, such municipal corporations may, within residence districts, establish pursuant to this act, further regulate as to the housing or residence therein of the different classes of inhabitants, but such regulations are not hereby authorized as will discriminate in favor of or against any class of inhabitants."

The appeal to the President and Board of Comissioners makes the following statement:

To the Honorable President, D. E. McLendon, and Board of City Commissioners of the City of Birmingham, Alabama:

Honored Commissioners:

Understanding that the Zoning Bill prepared, or being prepared, designed to give to the leading cities of the State of Alabama an autonomy that will enable them to beautify and to make more desirable their areas, carries also a segregation clause; knowing how unfavorably such clause is affecting, and will continue to affect the state of mind of the Negro population, we wish to submit the following for consideration:

A steady stream of our race is leaving the South and the State of Alabama daily. Nor do those going, and those planning to go, represent the "riff raff," the thriftless, and the ignorant, but the industrious, the thrifty and the intelligent, from country and city. The type of Negroes that make good reliable citizens—Negroes that labor, buy homes and are planning for a better life for their children.

Just now, the large farmers in the country are unable to settle upon anything as permanent for their farms; laborers in the industries are frequently changing. There is a general unsettledness among the Negro laboring class of the South and this restlessness is due to the state of mind of the Negro.

It would seem that whatever will allay this state of unrest would be constructive and promotive of economic prosperity and should be done and whatever will further arouse or increase such restless state would be destructive and should be avoided.

The purpose to enact a segregation law affecting property rights has already produced increased disturbances among Negro people of this district.

This restive state of mind among Negroes is increased by whatever tends to promote race friction or to give color to a belief already in the mind of the Negro, that, it the purpose of his white neighbor to shove him aside and to legislate upon him conditions that make living environs inconvenient and undesirable.

It is fixed in the Negro's mind that although such clause or section may leave the word Negro out, it is definitely directed at the Negro. He is thus singled out in a way that would indicate to be true what is far from being true, that the Negro seeks to live among white people.

The natural drift of the Negro group is toward group communities. This natural drift has created white communities and Negro communities alternating in the cities after a manner that has not left the Negro sections wholly without protection, the tendency being wherever there are large areas occupied by Negroes, to supply less police protection, poorer civic improvement and worse sanitary accommodations, to say nothing of being exposed to the mob and fire fiend. Thus any movement seeking to do this by legislation, tends to fix upon the Negro by actual legislation, inferior living conditions which spell race degredation.

Besides, a race segregation bill put now before the legislature, opens up a fountain of race discussion that might well be dispensed with. Relations between the white and Negro peoples of our commonwealth are reasonably cordial and peaceful. Why not permit them to remain so? Whether each section as a segregation clause passes or does not pass, its presentation and discussion will have a bad psychological effect upon race relations. The Negro leaders who seek to promote and maintain inter-racial good will, are seriously handicapped when they face concrete acts on the part of our white neighbors, that carry the significance of race degredation. Moreover, in cities where such legislation has been discussed and even effected, the first effect has been race animosity and the second result has been that such laws have been judged by the supreme court as being unconstitutional—as in the cases of Baltimore, Maryland, and Louisville, Kentucky.

We pray that such legislation as a race segregation clause in the Zoning Bill be not sought. We appeal on behalf of the Negroes of the city of Greater Birmingham and of the State of Alabama. We appeal in the interest of settled economic conditions for our race, in the interest of peace and prosperity for all, and in the interest of inter-racial good will which spells internal happiness and contentment. We appeal in the interest of what in our mind is just and fair.

We love Birmingham. We love Alabama. The Negro wants to stay here if given a reasonable assurance of the protection of life and property.

After carefully reading and pondering the Zoning Act, we feel content with its general purpose, our exceptions rest on the clause that provides for segregation, which clause we pray you, for the above reasons, to have eliminated from the bill.

Respectfully submitted—Oscar W. Adams, Editor Birmingham Reporter, Chairman; J. A. Bray, General Secretary Education C. M. E. Church, Secretary; F. G. Ragland, Pastor Congregational Church; C. L. Fisher, Pastor Sixteenth Street Baptist Church; H. N. Newsome, Pastor St. John A. M. E. Church; W. T. Woods, Grand Master of Colored Masons; U. G. Mason, Physician and Surgeon; B. F. Mallard, A. M. E. Ministers' Alliance; R. N. Hall, President Birmingham Baptist Ministers' Union.

The above document was presented at the Baptist Ministers' Union, Tuesday and the Methodist Ministers' Alliance and both organization endorsed the effort and pledged their support.

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"We pray that such legislation as a race segregation clause in the zoning bill be not sought. We appeal on behalf of the Negroes of the city of Greater Birmingham and of the state of Alabama. We appeal in the interest of settled economic conditions for our race, in the interest of peace and prosperity for all, and in the interest of inter-racial good will, which spells internal happiness and contentment.

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The letter was signed by Oscar W. Adams, chairman; J. A. Bray, F. G. Ragland, C. L. Fisher, H. N. Newsome, W. T. Woods, U. G. Mason, B. F. Mallard, R. N. Hall, T. W. Coffee.—Birmingham News.

MISCHIEVOUS, HARMFUL AND USELESS LEGISLATION

Birmingham Reporter 1/13/23

Young races, sections and countries are likely to make more laws or prescribe more rules than are necessary, and in this manner disturb the ciitzens and people who live under these rules. Every young country and every young race has more aspirants than necessary, and it seems that every person of some prominence, or who is in the public view, desires to perform a sensational act that will create unusual discussions. It is our hope and prayer that our Legislature which meets next week in Montgomery will not be found in this attitude and do things that will create mischief and disturb a reasonably satisfied people and start complaints and grievances in places not heretofore found. It is plain to every thoughtful mind that there are quite enough disturbances and ill practices against the Negro people in our section, and it occurs to us that lawmakers and administrators might take a rest period and give the Negro a chance to breathe.

Governor Kilby, in his message to the present Legislature, made a most complete statement about all the things of interest in our State. He has called attention to the lack of support for education and has asked for appropriations that will mean a forward step in the history of Alabama if our good Legislature can see its way clear to sanction his appeal. In the second paragraph of his message he advised against special legislation and too much local laws, and wisely states that special laws often interfere with the administration of justice and bear unequally upon individuals and groups of citizens. The Governor must have had in mind the proposed rider to the zoning act, which seeks to make a segregation law in order to cheapen the location and put at disadvantage the Negroes of the several cities in Alabama.

An article appeared in The Birmingham Age-Herald this week where City Attorney Wynn is quoted as discussing a zoning act and proposes in this act a segregation measure. The article follows:

"Race segregation will be attempted in the proposed zoning enabling act to be presented to the Legislature as a general bill by the city of Birmingham, despite opinion of experts that it is invalid and of doubtful results in other cities. This was learned when W. J. Wynn, city attorney, gave out a statement of the salient features of the bill.

"The provision for race segregation will be contained in the bill, however, as a separate section so that if its validity is assailed other sections will not suffer. Without saying whether he thought the section would be held valid, Attorney Wynn said he hoped even the psychology of such a provision would be helpful. He pointed out that even should it be finally held invalid, it might be some time before it was brought to a test.

"The bill will contain provisions enabling Alabama cities to enact ordinances restricting uses of buildings, dividing industrial and residential sections, regulating height of buildings, and making resident yards uniform."

This is a dangerous procedure on the part of our City Attorney, and if enacted into law will be a most damaging legislation to the Negro people of Alabama. None will suffer from the act save the Negro race, and the Legislature could be pointing at no other group in Alabama except the Negro group.

The second paragraph of Governor Kilby's message to the Legislature is complete in its pronouncement and certainly fits the case of the segregation proposal. Here is the Governor's statement:

"I earnestly advise you to avoid the enactment of too much local and special legislation. The practice is far too prevalent. No rule can be more just and equitable than that of the Legislature passing general laws and requiring all alike to regulate their conduct by them. Special laws often interfere with the administration of justice, bear unequally upon individuals and groups of citizens, and tend to confound rather than protect the rights and liberties of the people. Some special and local laws may be found necessary and advisable, but they should be used sparingly."

Attorney Wynn, in discussing his segregation bill, perhaps with those who know it to be unconstitutional and settled by the Supreme Court, said, in other words, that the psychology of such provision might prove good and it might be sometime before the measure would be brought to a final test. Be it remembered by every reader that Mr. Wynn is an officer of the city government and knows such a measure or bill to be in violation of the supreme law having been rendered by the Supreme Court of the United States. The question of the segregation of races is no new question, and has had its day in court, and there is no need for any further test. The psychology could mean nothing more or less than disturbing a satisfied, humble group who look to the laws for protection and the man whom they pay by taxes, direct and indirect, and whom they should seek to protect their interest, seems to be willing to propose an unlawful law and have it acted upon by the Legislature of the great State of Alabama and sanctioned by the imperial county of Jefferson. It is bad enough to be stabbed and disturbed by outsiders. But when we are disturbed and worked against by the man we pay, it is miserable and creates an unrest that no sane Negro can find a defense for.

Some might get the impression that the Negro would oppose the bill because they desire to live with or near white people. Nothing is further from the truth. They oppose the measure because Negroes are unprotected when they are not near white people. They don't have police supervision, lights are not given, streets are not kept up and a general lack of interest is exercised in any absolute Negro community. They are denied the right to vote or the privilege of citizens and cannot force any of these necessary comforts. Unscrupulous whites might be found in the Negro section at any time and no alarm from Negroes against a white man could hardly be of effect unless it was sanctioned by some other white man. There is no desire on the part of Negroes to live with or near white people, but there is a desire to live near police, lights and any other comforts given other people, and especially is this true where they pay taxes and help support the officers. The mere proposal of such measure has done more harm to progressive Negroes than all the leaders might cure in the next year.

NEGROES OBJECT TO RACE CLAUSE.

Atlanta Independent 2-1-23

Say This Feature of Zoning Bill Would Create Bad Feeling.

Birmingham, Ala.

Declaring that the race segregation clause of the proposed zoning bill introduced before the legislature will have a bad effect on race relations and that the discussion it will bring about might well be dispensed with at this time a written protest has been made to the city commission by a delegation of prominent Negroes. The protest is signed by ten well known Negro leaders and ministers. A conference with the committee was held by the city commission following the adjourned meeting Thursday morning, but no action was taken.

The written protest addressed to the commission points out that there is a steady stream of Negroes leaving the south. It states that whatever will allay the unrest among the Negroes will be constructive. It stated that the segregation clause will cause more unrest, and that while the Negro is not mentioned, he is singled out by this clause of the bill. The statement says that the natural drift of Negroes is into community centers and that there is no desire to live among white people. It is stated that, as a result of this tendency, there are white and Negro communities intermingled. It is stated that where there are Negro communities police protection is poorer and that municipal improvements are poorer. The delegation asked that the race segregation clause be eliminated from the bill and favored the bill otherwise.

The statement in part, is as follows:

"Understanding that the zoning bill prepared, or being prepared, designed to give to the leading cities of the state of Alabama an autonomy that will enable them to beautify and to make more derisable their areas, carries also a segregation clause; knowing how unfavorably such clause is affecting, and will continue to affect the state of mind of the Negro population, we wish to submit the following for consideration:

"A steady stream of our race is leaving the south and the state of Alabama daily. Nor do those going, and those planning to go, represent the 'riff-raff,' the thriftless and the ignorant, but the industrious, the thrifty and the intelligent from the country and city—the type of Negroes that make good, reliable citizens; Negroes that labor, buy homes and are planning for a better life for their children.

"It would seem that whatever will allay this state of unrest would be constructive and promotive of economic prosperity and should be done: and whatever will further arouse or increase such restless state would be destructive and should be avoided.

"The purpose to enact a segregation law affecting property rights has already produced increased disturbance among Negro people of this district.

"This restive state of mind among Negroes is increased by whatever tends to promote race friction or to give color to a belief already in the mind of the Negro that it is the purpose of his white neighbor to shove him aside and to legislate upon him conditions that make living environs inconvenient and undesirable.

"It is fixed in the Negro's mind that although such clause or section may leave the word Negro out, it is definitely directed at the Negro. He is thus singled out in a way that would indicate to be true what is far from being true, that the Negro seeks to live among white people.

"The natural drift of the Negro group is toward group communities. This natural drift has created white communities and Negro communities, alternating in the cities after a manner that has not left the Negro sections wholly without protection, the tendency being wherever there are large areas occupied by Negroes, to supply less police protection, poorer civic improvement and worse sanitary accommodations, to say nothing of being exposed to the mob and the fire fiend. Thus, any movement seeking to do this by legislation tends to fix upon the Negro by actual legislation, inferior living conditions, which spells race degredation.

"Relations between the white and Negro peoples of our commonwealth are reasonably cordial and peaceful. Why not permit them to remain so? Whether such section as a segregation clause passes or does not pass, its presentation and discussion will have a bad psycho-

Notice from state

Segregation—1923

Alabama.

JIM CROW AND OTHER DEVILMENT

Birmingham Reporter.

During the past year and a half legislators or lawmaking bodies seem to have been bent on humiliating or disturbing the Negro race with this or the other unnecessary law. They seem now to be possessed with the fever of segregation more than any other ailment. This form of segregation, the other form of segregation, with laws already on the statutes that prescribe separation which both races in the South readily concede as a law, while only one race is forced to obey. All bills and measures pointing to a separation of races are intended to place the Negro where the white man wants him to stay, when, as a matter of fact, the law prescribes the place of the white man as well as that of the Negro, and in this instance, which is fair, it attempts to give the Negro rights which for the moment he thinks he has until some white man decides to cross the line or break the law, and then it is shown that the Negro has no rights that the white man is lawfully bound to respect.

In our present jim crow laws of Birmingham the Negro is obeying patiently, obediently and manly. The difficulty is that the persons who ask for the laws and force the commission and other law officers to make them refuse at every turn to obey.

3/24/23

There is no tendency on the part of Negroes to be with white folk, and emphasizing the fact that Negroes get near white people is ridiculous and reflectory. No Negro wants association with a white man, except as the white man arranges it, and then he finds no particular pleasure or honor in such association.

It would be a needed rest on the part of some of our prejudice-making white people to simply let the Negro alone, give him a breathing spell, keep him out of the columns of the paper in a reflectory manner, settling this form of politics or the other form. We want to bet let alone; we want to be developed as citizens and not be the tool for every political squabble that might arise between the corporation and the government or between whites and whites.

In discussing the recent ordinance passed for the separation of Negroes and whites in Birmingham, the City Commission, in explaining its position, made the followng statement:

"Nor is there any disposition to stir up the race question.

"The City Commission was not actuated by any spirit of hostility toward the colored race. We are seeking a principle and tradition that is well established and recognized by both colored and white people. This ordinance does not create or impose a condition that is not recognized by the colored people themselves, and that is not in effect through the customs and habits of living of both races throughout the South. The truth is that the colored race will benefit more from a remedying of this situation than will the white people themselves. We know from the complaints we have had and the narrow averting of trouble in many instances, that it is high time that this situation were effectually remedied. There is no disposition on the part of the colored race to create the changed condition imposed by the one-man cars. They recognize the danger of it and the objections to it. The responsibility for it lies only upon the street car company. Every thinking person will recognize the wisdom of the slogan, 'Safety First.' All the argument about stirring up race strife and hostility is manifestly without foundation."

The City Commission is infinitely correct as regards the Negroes and their suffering from the jim crow law, and if they have any trouble by changing the present condition it will not be brought on by Negroes, but will be by other people who refuse to obey the law and whom the authority has never been willing in past years to punish for not obeying the law. We would have less trouble in our community if there was any way of punishing white people for their abuse and violation of the law as practiced against colored people. There is no complaint on the part of the colored people against the one-man car or the two-man car, except that the provisions made for them are often brutally taken by white people and the Negroes have no appeal.

We will not have peace in a district as large as this one as long as one group is free to do as it pleases, while the other group, though humble, is forced to obey the law.

OWENTON SECTION DRAWS COLOR LINE

Birmingham Ala.

Fixes Boundary At Mass Meeting To Present To Real Estate Board.

Citizens of Graymont and Owenton Friday were preparing to present resolutions to the Real Estate Board, adopted at a meeting of the Graymont Civic Association Thursday night, advising the drawing of a boundary line between specified white and negro districts to prevent the spread of the negro invasion into white residential vicinities which is already assuming unpleasant prospects, following a real estate transaction in the Graymont district, which resulted in a negro purchasing a home between two residences owned by white persons.

6-23-23

Believing this to be the only solution of threatening racial friction a committee specified the following boundary line which was unanimously agreed to at the meeting:

Birmingham Ala.

"Beginning at the intersection of Eighth Avenue and Centre Street, formerly William Street, continuing north along Centre Street to the intersection of Centre Street with Eleventh Avenue, formerly Louise Avenue, thence east along Eleventh Avenue to intersection of First Street, East, formerly Charles Street, thence north along First Street, East, to the North Ensley car line."

Continuing, the resolution asserted that such a boundry line would meet with the approval of the larger portion of the negroes as the best negro citizens do not wish to intrude upon white residential territory.

Concluding, the resolution suggests: "We sincerely trust that we may have your cooperation in our undertaking. We believe that the plans we are fostering meet with your approval. We respectively ask that you recommend such action to other sections, whose racial problems are similar to our own."

That the city commission is confronting these kind of problems daily was pointed out by H. M. Glassman, president of the civic association, who suggested that all assistance should be given the city commission to obtain passage of a law by the state legislature allowing the city commissions to establish white and negro residential and business zones.

A committee to conduct a further investigation into the problem and possibly recommend further changes in the boundary line was appointed as follows: Mrs. W. N. Benton, representing her property; W. N. Ransome for Graymont, and E. J. Laney, representing Owenton.

Complications in Graymont and Owenton, implicating the races, reached an acute stage when it became known that a home between two white residences had been sold to a negro. This home was rented to Mrs. R. D. Alexander, who is still residing at the place. Two weeks ago a party of negroes came to the home which is at 105 Kate Avenue while Mrs. Alexander was away and looked over the place, it is alleged. Later, the McConnell, White-Terry Realty and Insurance Company offered to sell the home to Mrs. Alexander, who declined the offer.

THE ALABAMA LEGISLATURE AND THE ZONING BILL

Birmingham Ala.

According to reports from Montgomery, the zoning enabling act presented to the Legislature has undergone some very necessary changes and these changes, whether intentional or otherwise, have a decided effect on the mind and desires of the Negro people who wish to live at peace and under the protection of the law in the several large cities of Alabama. The zoning enabling act carried with it a segregation clause which was written into the bill at the instigation of the Birmingham realty Exchange, as stated by City attorney W. J. Wynn. That clause is a most dangerous one. It seeks almost directly to throw the Negro out of nearly every large city without protection and the comforts that other citizens might enjoy. His taxes will not be less and his responsibilities would become more. In other words, he was to have the same thing in cities of certain sizes as he has on the Jim Crow cars of the South, except that in the jim crow car they do make some effort or hire someone to brush it out occasionally. But a segregated situation as would be brought on by such a bill as proposed in the Legislature would place the Negro without any kind of protection and submit him to the cruelties and disadvantages of mobs, unscrupulous and undisturbed white persons who exercised their undue and unmanly liberties upon the blacks.

This clause according to reports has been stricken from the bill and those who would disturb the peace and happiness of the Negro people of Alabama are going up with all kinds of protests and are threatening to reinstate the section.

It is altogether complimentary on the part of the committee, and it will express great vision on the part of our law-makers if the committee is sustained in its action and no such devilment as a further humiliation of the blacks will be presented to any of our cities of Alabama as a possible law for that municipality. Every Negro who has a white friend ought to solicit his aid and support against this measure and all efforts in this direction should be continued until the bill is defeated. It will mean no good to any body; it will mean humiliation to the blacks and cannot be profitable to the whites, except to realestate dealers who desire to build shanties and hovels for Negroes in this segregated district.

Segregation—1923

Alabama

THE DANGER OF THE SEGREGATION CLAUSE IN THE ZONING BILL AND WHY WE OPPOSE IT

The City Attorney of Birmingham, W. J. Wynn, had a lengthy letter in The Birmingham News Sunday morning, January 21st, stating the position of the City Commission on the segregation section of the Zoning Act, and making explanations to The News of section 2, which section is a segregation clause in the bill against which The News has argued and made a most complete and fair discussion. In fact, The News went further into the dangers that might occur from such a measure than this publication or the committee of Negro people opposing it attempted to go. Mr. Wynn says that before the segregation clause will be passed by the Commission the Colored people will be heard. This is encouraging, but it is not unusual. Any ordinances to be passed by the city government might be discussed by any of its citizens with the Commission.

It is important with us that we have a hearing before the Commission, but it is more important that such mischief-making and unnecessary measures not be passed by our State Legislature.

The Negro people have many friends in Birmingham and Alabama; they are scattered throughout the Southland. None have been more willing and ready to support worthy views of the Negro race than the Birmingham white people. The Birmingham News has been and is a mighty good friend in our interest. The sober members of both races where racial interest is concerned have been able to keep our affairs fairly satisfactory. This relation has been spoken of in various sections of America and during the war or at the close of the war ex-President Taft, in a public address in Washington, D. C., called special attention to the relation and harmonious conditions existing between the whites and blacks of Birmingham. We didn't need a law then to find our places in this city; we don't need one now. If we have a demand for such a law, who is demanding it? From what source does it emanate? Has our city government found a need for it? Are there any conditions where the Negroes and white people are mixing more than necessary and we have had trouble because of our present relation? Are we not satisfied to be happy and peaceable neighbors? Is it that we are going to start unnecessary frictions because of a desire of real estate agents to so segregate the Negro that white land owners will be permitted to build shacks and shanties, camps and hovels, incubators of crime, and charge large rent for them and force all Negroes in that section as in the plan of herding so many sheep or goats? Will our Legislature bow to such notions because of the smooth and innocent package in which it is brought? Will they take out of the hand of the Negro his only weapon of defense, the ballot, and then proceed to humiliate and discourage him, reduce his property values, limit his power of accumulation? The very presentation of such a notion sets the Negro out as a degraded and useless piece of humanity. We oppose the segregation clause of the Zoning Act for the above and following reasons:

First, The Negro is already segregated in Birmingham and every other city in the South, and such segregation as is going on is sufficient, satisfactory and mutually agreed to.

Second, The Bill, whether intentional or not, will work mischief and bad feeling and will serve as a feeder to the already ungodly principle of prejudice so freely existing in our land against Negro people.

Third, Because it is a step on the part of an advanced race to humiliate, discourage and crush a loyal, yet humble race within its midst.

Fourth, Because it is inhuman in that the Negro has been stripped of his political right to defend himself against such attacks. He pays taxes as other people and has but one right that he can exercise, and that is the right of appeal, and when laws are enacted by race men the appeal made by Negro people against such laws, most of the time, is like appealing from Caesar sober to Caesar drunk.

Fifth, We oppose the law because we are American citizens and are bound to abide by the laws like any other citizens within her confines, except that we are expected to keep and protect the laws more exactly than perhaps any other citizen within the country.

Sixth, Because the Act will word a hardship on the Negro.

Seventh, Because it is a violation of the constitution of the United States of America and decisions handed down by the Supreme Court of America, the highest authority known to our States, and all of us, whatever the color of our skin, are bound by the constitution of our country and the decisions of the highest tribunal of the nation. The Negro is a law-abiding citizen, and while he is not privileged to exercise the right as other citizens, he must obey the law and oppose all administrators and individuals who seek to destroy the law, whether on the pretext of psychological expediency or by right-down, dogged meanness.

Eighth, We oppose it because its intentions are fully expressed in most of the utterance, but disguised in words that there will be no discrimination, when, as a matter of fact, every Negro knows that wherever there is segregation there is discrimination and if discrimination were not intended there would be no need of segregation. And it is impossible to think of giving the Negro the same protection as is given white people when segregated. No white man of the South or elsewhere who knows th prejudices against the Negro and his suffering in this country would argue for a moment that he could be protected in a segregated zone. We must oppose section 2, Colored men and women, for the reasons given and for no better reason than is expressed by The Birmingham News of January 19. Here is the News' statement:

"ZONING ACT SHOULD ELIMINATE THE RACE SEGREGATION FEATURE; IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

Birmingham has some mighty good colored citizens, and the relations between the races here are on the proper basis. The colored people of this city have confidence in the fairness and kindliness of the race which has the reins of power in its hands and that very fact should impel the white people to go slow on anything which might possibly work injustice or be unfair to the Negroes. With power goes responsibility, and the corresponding obligation of honor to use that responsibility wisely, well and fairly.

The News is committed to the 'zoning act' in its original features, to prevent the invasion of residential districts by mercantile establishments of all sorts—and so on; but this attempt to set aside districts and compel the colored people to live in them is unwise. A similar attempt was made in Baltimore. The case went to the Supreme Court and was held unconstitutional. The same attempt was made in Louisville, and the Kentucky Supreme Court held it unconstitutional. If the attempt is persisted in in Alabama, the Alabama Supreme Court will doubtless hold in line with the decisions mentioned, or if it does not, certainly the Supreme Court of the United States will, for the unconstitutionality of such legislation is patent.

But—suppose it were not? Think of the train of evils which would come; the injustices worked, the openings given speculators—who may be interested in this move, desiring to run colored citizens out of their homes and acquire them at forced sale, and therefore for less than the value of the property? Who is there that for a moment will contend that if the Negroes are herded into one ward or section, that they will be given any sort of consideration in the way of paving, lights, sanitation, policing? By having a Negro settlement here and there in the city, no harm is done; these citizens get the benefit of protection and conveniences, and it is a guarantee of orderly conduct, for the very nearness to white settlements has a salutary effect, and stimulative in great degree toward better citizenship on the part of the majority of these colored people.

There is another feature: white neighborhoods change. People seek other surroundings—there is a vogue for a certain neighborhood, and the older portions of towns and cities are sometimes deserted for newer and more modern ones. Very often Negroes fall heir to these neighborhoods, and are glad to get them; there are better houses than th average of Negro rental property, paving, sewerage, lights, and so on. To adopt a race segregation zoning ordinance would cut both ways—the owners of this unfashionable property would be cut off from a market, or perhaps the rental class available, and the Ne-

Birmingham Can't Force Segregation

Chicago Tribune

Birmingham, Ala., Jan. 26.—Enforced segregation of races in the residential districts in the proposed zoning ordinance for Birmingham loomed as improbable after Robert Whitten of Cleveland, city planning expert, had addressed the commission and others on problems of building restrictions. Mr. Whitten declared that racial segregation had been embodied in the Atlanta zoning ordinance but that it was being enforced merely on trial and that the city attorney there had little hope of it being sustained when brought to the courts.

1-27-23

Separation of races had been one of the chief points in the proposed zoning ordinance for which the city of Birmingham will ask an enabling act of the next legislature. Mr. Whitten declared that it was invalid under the fourteenth amendment, prohibiting "discrimination on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude."

Chicago

W. J. Wynn, city attorney, interposed the suggestion that racial separation ought to be possible of accomplishment under the same interpretation as the so-called "Jim Crow" law, namely, that separation is not discrimination, but operates to the advantage of both races. The zoning expert said that this was reasonable, but said that other cities had found it difficult to justify such restrictions legally.

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The News respectfully submits to the Legislature and those proponents of this zoning law here in Birmingham that the race segregation section of the act should be dropped. There is no complaint of the status quo and no occasion for stirring up unnecessary trouble, and disturbing the colored people, to say nothing of the very uncertain effect such a law would have upon real estate values."—Birmingham News, Jan. 19, 1923.

THE SEGREGATION CLAUSE IN THE ZONING ACT

1/28/23
Birmingham Reporter

The Negroes of Jefferson County are making an appeal to the City Commission and the Legislature of Alabama against the segregation clause of the Zoning Act. This appeal is in the hands of the President of the Board of Commissioners and one or two conferences have been held concerning it. The committee handling the matter made it known that there is no disposition to oppose the general act of zoning, but the purpose to carry a segregation clause is all too plain that it means to discourage and hinder the Negro. This same kind of mischief has been up a thousand different times and has made its way to the Supreme Court of the United States two or three times, there to get the final word that such an attempt is unlawful and cannot be supported by the Constitution of the United States, and yet it is now advocated by the city of Birmingham and supported by our representatives, as we understand, from Jefferson County. This is a most untimely presentation and certainly out of line with common sense and with no respect for the already unsettled conditions of the Negro in Alabama and in the South. It is rightly argued in this appeal to the commission and the legislature that the Negro seeks no particular association with white people, nor to live with or near them, but it is his purpose to have comforts and protection equal to that of any other citizen. This he has pledged himself to appeal for, work for and to use every honorable means to maintain, that is, he will spend and work for the comforts he is justly entitled to as a citizen.

Section 2 of the general act of zoning is the one that the Negro people take exception to and are willing to approve and support all other provisions along with those who are supporting the bill. Section 2 is most adroitly drawn, one long paragraph making a single sentence. It must have been written by a very alert legal mind, using language smooth, tender, feelingless, and yet within that paragraph is encouched disruption, misunderstandings, riots, passion, disregard and disrespect for neighbors and a feeder to the most damnable curse on the American soil—race prejudice and race injustice. We would not venture the assertion that the writer or promoters of this section attempted to disguise their intention, for as a matter of fact it is plainly said what is meant. The last lines of the paragraph may be oil on the wounds, but not sufficient to cure the damage. Here is the paragraph:

"For the promotion of the public peace, order, safety and general welfare, such municipal corporations may, within residence districts established pursuant to this act, further regulate as to the housing or residence therein of the different classes of inhabitants, but such regulations are not hereby authorized as will discriminate in favor of or against any class of inhabitants."

The reader will note that it expresses language similar to that of the "jim crow" law or the law prescribing separate but equal accommodations for passengers on railroad trains. Every Negro of any sense knows that there is no such thing as equal accommodation or equal protection on railroad trains in the South. And every Negro knows that his appeal to law and equity in these matters has proven in past years as the case of "appealing from Caesar sober to Caesar drunk." The man to see to these provisions being carried out is, most likely, the man who prepared the law, and he, maybe, prepared it under the direction of voters who placed him in the office and against thousands of worthy Negroes who ought to be voters but are denied the right. And here is where we are. We can but appeal for justice and expose the wrong and declare the approaching trouble that is bound to come from such an undesirable, mischievous and useless law.

THE ZONE ENABLING ACT AND THE SEGREGATION SECTION

B'ham Reporter B'ham, Ala
3-3-23

Every Negro of the South who is intelligent sufficiently to respect beauty and the symmetry of things, and many thousands of them are, is in favor of any movement that will hasten for his city and community such a condition. There are thousands of Negroes in Alabama, and every large city has a reasonable and full portion of them, as well as being numerous in country towns and villages. For three hundred years in America arrangements have been going on in a particular way for and against him. By accident and sometimes by design and law he has received a portion of such consideration as humanity is entitled to. His freedom from slavery was providential.

The zone enabling act settling the home sections of the city may be a good move, and could but have the support of every Negro. It is one of those acts that seeks home comfort, quietude and the beauty that may be developed in residential sections that could not be if certain classes of business were permitted in these sections. And this is where the bill should end. It is sufficient in that and all could prosper. But where the bill seeks to segregate the Negro it becomes weak and loses its sense of justice.

The Negro is already segregated. We need no law to find and locate the place of the Negro, no more than we need a law to find and locate the place of the white man. This segregation clause of the enabling act is unconstitutional, unnecessary and leads to disruption, disorganization, passionate expressions and indifferent attitudes. Segregation, of course, means to separate; we are separated. Segregation means to put in groups; to a large extent we are in groups. Segregation of the Negro means more than the ordinary interpretation of the word. It means to cheapen his position in the community, to give him niggardly of the comforts of the city; it means to increase his death rate far beyond the alarming situation that it is now. And how? Through some unscrupulous, unfair, and unjust real estate lord, who freely throws up shanties and shacks and herds the Negroes in as so much cattle for shipping. It takes the Negro out of touch with the respected citizens of the community and, without the ballot in a segregated area, he cannot force anything that he is entitled to or that other citizens are enjoying. It is altogether unfortunate for Birmingham, a laboring district and perhaps a labor legislature, to propose such a law that can but work mischief and disruption to our community and State.

The Birmingham Age-Herald, one of the foremost publications of the South and one of the leading journals of the country, in discussing this bill in its issue of February 22, made the following editorial comment:

> Declaration is made by the advocates of a city zoning system that it is the golden rule applied to property values. Under its application no individual is permitted to mar the harmony of a neighborhood in the exercise of his selfish ends, or to lower other property values by building that which affords him a larger present revenue, regardless of the fixed character of the neighborhood. In a state of orderly society the individual right ceases as soon as it comes in conflict with the rights of the majority. Both rights stand on an equal plane and are entitled to the same consideration at the hands of the community. There must be a way of preserving each.
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We note that the Age-Herald says "The Negro can be protected in his rights and the whites in theirs. Segregation does not presuppose crowding Negroes into any one neighborhood, but the preservation of the neighborhoods strictly colored."

This is a serious question of protecting the Negro in his rights. If our rights are to be determined by past history, then we have no rights, and it is our hope to live in calling distance at least of the people who have rights. The Age-Herald also states that "half the States of the Union have granted enabling acts." This is correct, and it might be mentioned in this same connection that none of the cities of this large number have a segregation clause, except the one, Atlanta, Georgia, perhaps. and it is invalid because there is no attempt made to enforce it. The Age-Herald is eminently correct in the expression, "Nothing so ties a citizen to his community as ownership of a home and property." This idea we have consistently taught and are pursuing that course today. It might be noted in passing that nothing makes a citizen so miserable, indifferent, with little or no respect for community and State as when he knows that there are those who refuse to protect him in his home and continue to make laws, pass resolutions and ordinances that cheapen his property and lessen his ambition as a citizen.

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